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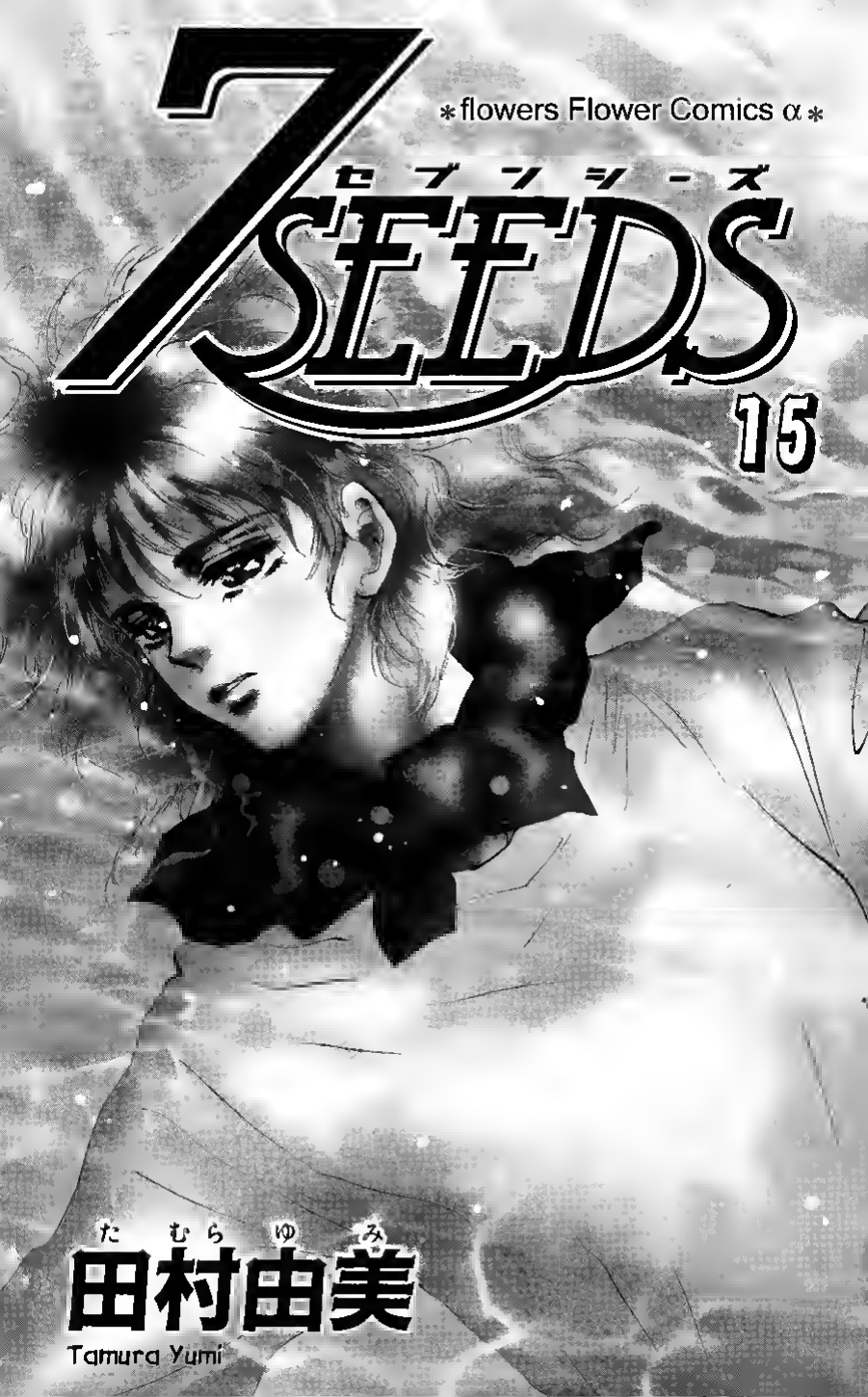
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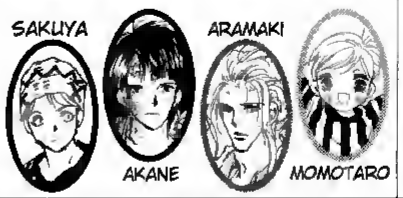
7SEEDS
セブンシーズ
15
田村由美
たむらゆみ
Tamura Yumi

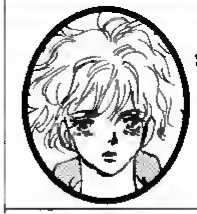
TEAM SUMMER A
RYO
INFLUENTIAL PERSON IN TEAM SUMMER A. HE'S A COOL-HEADED AND DYNAMIC YOUNG MAN.

TEAM SUMMER A
ANGO
HE ACTS AS THE LEADER FOR TEAM SUMMER A. HE BLAMES HIMSELF FOR HIS FRIEND'S DEATH.

TEAM SUMMER A
KORURI
EXPERT IN ASTRONOMY AND WEATHER. SHE'S A VERY GOOD HANG GLIDER.

TEAM SPRING, WINTER AND AUTUMN





TEAM SPRING
SUGURONO HANA
AN OPTIMISTIC GIRL WHO LEARNED EVERYTHING ABOUT SURVIVING IN THE WILDERNESS FROM HER FATHER.

TEAM SPRING
YUKIMA HARU
TALENTED YOUNG PIANIST. HE'S A LITTLE ECCENTRIC AND ALWAYS ACTS COOL AND INDIFFERENT.

ER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARA

7 SEEDS 15

セブンシーズ

flowers フラワーコミックスα

ORY STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY

WE ARE IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AND A HUGE METEORITE HAS COLLIDED WITH THE EARTH.
ALL LIVING BEINGS, INCLUDING THE HUMAN RACE, WERE ELIMINATED. THE GOVERNMENT, WHO HAD FORESEEN THIS WORST CASE SCENARIO, TOOK A CERTAIN COUNTERMEASURE: PROJECT SEVEN SEEDS, FOR WHICH 5 TEAMS OF SEVEN TALENTED AND CAREFULLY SELECTED BOYS AND GIRLS WERE BUILT AND PUT INTO COLD SLEEP TO SECURE THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE HUMAN RACE.

THE AWAKENED BOYS AND GIRLS WERE SUDDENLY EXPOSED TO A SEVERE ENVIRONMENT. WHILE THEY TRIED TO SURVIVE, THEY HAD TO WATCH THEIR FRIENDS DIE, NEVER TO SEE THEM AGAIN. HANA AND THEIR PARTY DISCOVERED A HUGE SHELTER, BUT THE PEOPLE THERE HAD BEEN ELIMINATED BY PARASITES. THEN THEY ENCOUNTERED TEAM SUMMER A, WHO SHOT THE GUIDE IZAYOI, KILLING HIM. HANA AND THE OTHERS RETURNED TO THE SPRING VILLAGE, BUT THE HOUSES HAD BEEN WASHED AWAY DURING A FLOOD, AND IT WAS ABANDONED. THEY SETTLED IN A CAVERN, BUT THEN THEY WERE ATTACKED BY CARNIVOROUS BATS, AND SUFFERED HEAVY DAMAGE. THEY MANAGED TO AVERT THE MENACE OF THE BATS, BUT IN ORDER TO PROTECT EVERYBODY, THEY DECIDED TO LIVE WITH TEAM SUMMER A... EVEN THOUGH THEY SENSED DANGER FROM ANGO, WHO HATES OUTSIDERS, THEY STARTED BUILDING THEIR LIVES. DURING ONE SUCH OCCASION, HARU WAS ATTACKED FROM BEHIND. WHEN HANA SUSPECTED ANGO AND TOOK HIM TO TASK, RYO TOOK NOTICE OF HANA'S KNIFE...?!

7SEEDS (セブンシーズ)

15

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○ flowers Flower Comics α ○

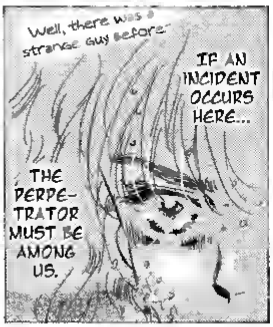
Summer Solstice Chapter 15

【—Certainty—】

FA-
THER
...?
YOU GUYS
ALL HAVE
PARENTS.
AH,
THIS KNIFE
WAS VERY
PRECIOUS TO
MY FATHER.
I THINK
THAT HE
PUT IT INTO
MY PACK.
BUT
WHAT
ABOUT
IT?
I DON'T
KNOW MUCH
ABOUT THAT
FEELING.
ANY-
WAY...
LIS-
TEN,
THERE
ARE
THINGS
IN THIS
WORLD...
THAT ARE
CLEAR.
pfft
pfft
cough
cough
Cough
Ugh
This
stinks
THE
CEN-
TRAL
ISSUE
HERE
IS...
THAT
HARU
WAS
ALMOST
KILLED,
ISN'T
IT?!

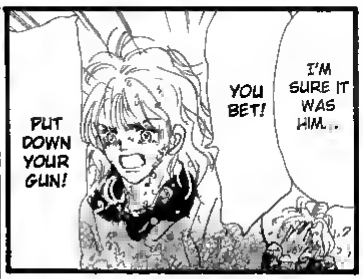
THAT YOU COULD SUDDENLY HAPPEN TO PASS BY.
NAMELY THAT THERE WILL HARDLY BE ANY UNKNOWN ROBBERS OR BLOODTHIRSTY MURDERERS...

WERE YOU ATTACKED BY AN ANIMAL?
OR WERE YOU DAYDREAMING, AND BUMPED AGAINST SOMETHING?
I WONDER HOW IT HAPPENED.
ANGO,
IT WAS YOU!

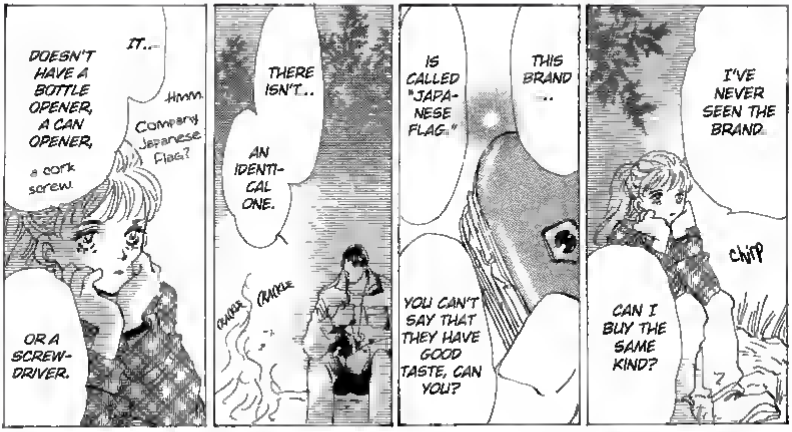

Well, there was a strange guy before.
IF AN INCIDENT OCCURS HERE...
THE PERPETRATOR MUST BE AMONG US.

IF PEOPLE WHO AREN'T CAREFUL ENOUGH DIE.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED...

THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO CHECK WITH HANA.
BACK OFF.
ANGO,
PUT YOUR GUN AWAY.

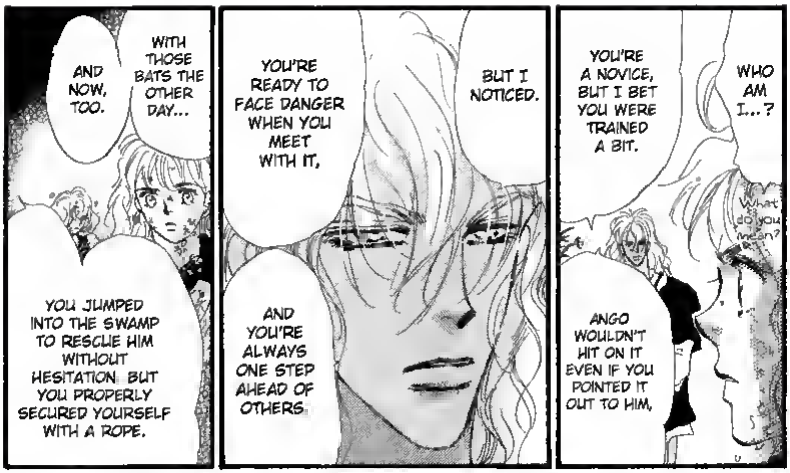

PUT DOWN YOUR GUN!
YOU BET!
I'M SURE IT WAS HIM...

ANGO, GIVE ME YOUR KNIFE,
BECAUSE MINE IS FOR LEFT HANDERS.
I DON'T KNOW.
BUT THINGS THAT BOTHER YOU..
SHOULDN'T BE NEGLECTED.
RYO,
Stop ordering me around
WHAT'S WRONG?
IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THAT KNIFE?
HERS HAS MORE SIGNS OF WEAR AND TEAR, THOUGH.
THEY'RE ABSOLUTELY THE SAME.
YOU SEE..
IT'S ABSOLUTELY IDENTICAL?
SAY, DAD,
WHO'S THE PRODUCER OF THIS KNIFE?
BECAUSE...
IT CAN'T BE EXACTLY ALIKE..
THE BRAND TOO?
I DON'T KNOW HOW SPECIAL THAT IS,
..of knives like these.
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY OTHERS.


IT...
Hmm.
Company Japanese flag?
DOESN'T HAVE A BOTTLE OPENER, A CAN OPENER,
a cork screw
OR A SCREW-DRIVER.
THERE ISN'T..
AN IDENTI-CAL ONE.
CHUCK
CHUCK
IS CALLED "JAPA-NESE FLAG."
THIS BRAND ...
YOU CAN'T SAY THAT THEY HAVE GOOD TASTE, CAN YOU?
I'VE NEVER SEEN THE BRAND.
CHIP
CAN I BUY THE SAME KIND?

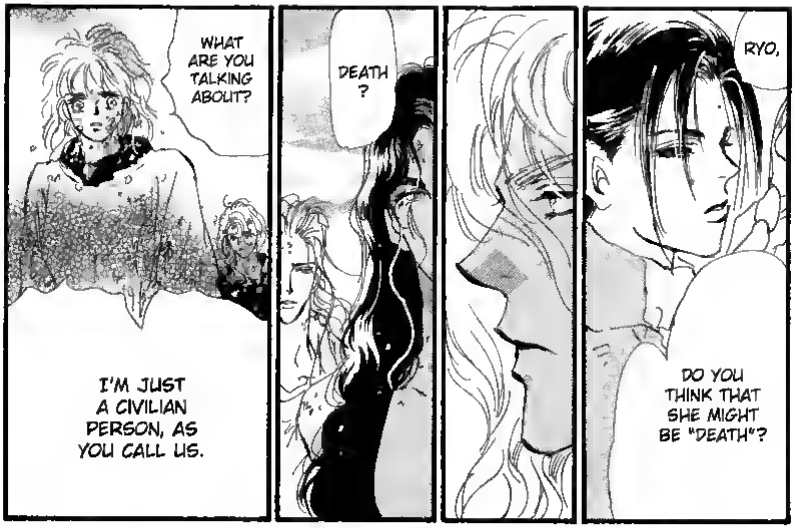
NO MATTER HOW LONG I SEARCHED FOR THAT PRODUCER, I COULDN'T FIND THEM.
ABSO-LUTELY ...
THE SAME?
Even though it holds many things, it's still light. And it's solid. Of course it's stain-less.
It comes with a saw string and a blade sharpen-er (de-tachable). That's rare.
I'd really like to have one too
I SUP-POSE ..
THAT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE THOSE AREN'T NECES-SARY.

AND...
WHO ARE YOU, HANA?
WHO WAS THAT FATHER OF YOURS?


WHO AM I...?
What do you mean?
YOU'RE A NOVICE, BUT I BET YOU WERE TRAINED A BIT.
ANGO WOULDN'T HIT ON IT EVEN IF YOU POINTED IT OUT TO HIM,
BUT I NOTICED.
YOU'RE READY TO FACE DANGER WHEN YOU MEET WITH IT,
AND YOU'RE ALWAYS ONE STEP AHEAD OF OTHERS.
WITH THOSE BATS THE OTHER DAY...
AND NOW, TOO.
YOU JUMPED INTO THE SWAMP TO RESCUE HIM WITHOUT HESITATION. BUT YOU PROPERLY SECURED YOURSELF WITH A ROPE.

AND, YOU ATTACK US UNFAZED...
EVEN THOUGH WE CARRY GUNS.
SO, WHO ARE YOU?

SHE DOESN'T ONLY ATTACK YOU GUYS.
She confronted our guide Yanagi-san too
HARU.
THAT'S JUST HER NATURE.


WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I'M JUST A CIVILIAN PERSON, AS YOU CALL US.
DEATH ?
RYO,
DO YOU THINK THAT SHE MIGHT BE "DEATH"?

SUGU-RONO?
She means common folk, huh?
I'M SUGU-RONO HANA..
FROM TEAM SPRING.
I'M AN ORDINARY HIGH SCHOOL GIRL.
WRIT-TEN...
WITH THE KANJI FOR EDGE AND BLACK FIELD?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, NIJIKO?

What the heck?
MY FATHER'S ?
WHAT WAS ..
YOUR FATHER'S NAME?
TAKASHI.
SUGURONO TAKASHI. WHY?
NIJIKO?
ANGOKUN,
I SAW IN A REGISTER ON A COMPUTER ...
THAT TAKASHI-SENSEI'S FULL NAME ...
WAS SUGURONO TAKASHI.
drip
drip
drip

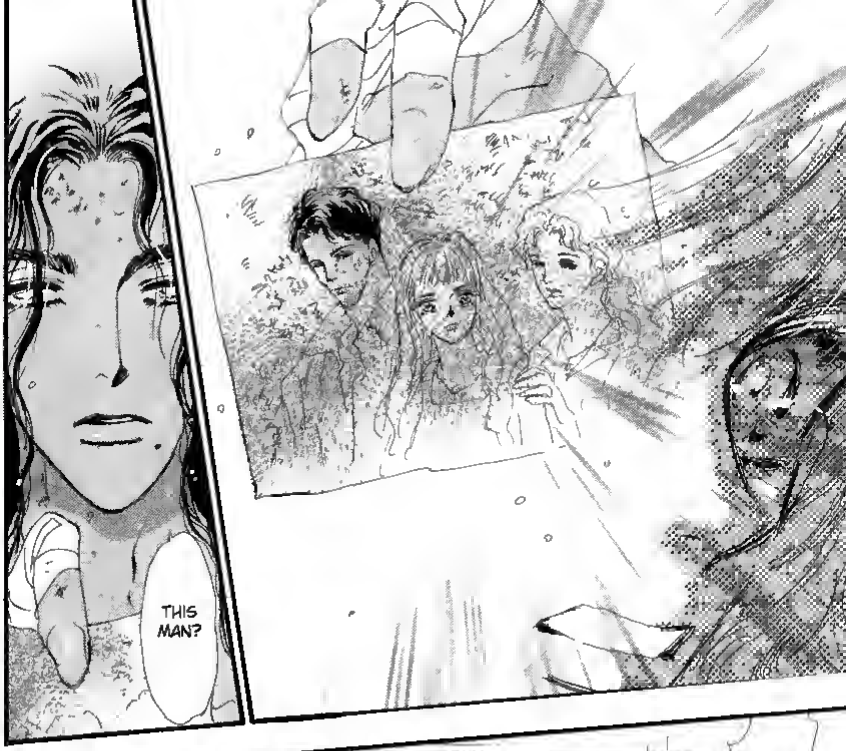
TAKA-
SHI...
SENSEI
...?

YOUR FATHER...
TAKA-SHI...
SENSEI ...?
WAS TAKASHI-SENSEI?
HE WAS YOUR FATHER ...?
YOU...
KNOW MY FATHER?
UM, BUT...

HUH...? I NEVER SAW HIM WITH A MUSTACHE.
I THINK YOU'RE CONFUSING HIM...
WHAT DID HE DO?
DID HE HAVE A MUSTACHE?
MY FATHER
NEVER WAS A "SENSEI", YOU SEE?
BUT I NEVER SAW HIM DO MARTIAL ARTS...
Wood carving?
MOUNTAIN CLIMBING WAS HIS HOBBY,
OR WRESTLING, EITHER.
HE WAS GOOD AT MOUNTAIN CLIMBING,
WOOD CARVING, AND MARTIAL ARTS, I BET.
HE WORKED FOR THE WARD OFFICE...
HIS OCCUPATION?
HE WAS A PUBLIC OFFICER.
AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR PENSIONS
HE WOULD SUDDENLY CHOKE YOU FROM BEHIND ...
AND ASK HOW YOU WERE GOING TO GET AWAY, RIGHT?!

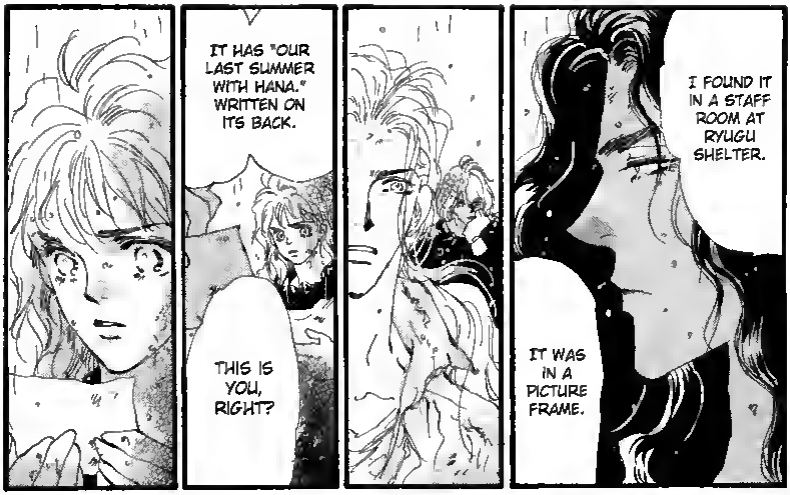
I MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT I'M A NEWLYWED.
YOU HAVE ...
THE SAME KNIFE.
Huh?!
Are you crazy?
HE'D NEVER DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHO HATED BAD JOKES.
MY FATHER WAS AN OVERLY SERIOUS MAN...
AND WE'RE HAVING A BABY NEXT YEAR.
LIM,
WHAT...
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
ANGO,
SEVENTEEN YEARS HAVE PASSED ...
SINCE THEN.
A BABY ...
WAS IT LAST YEAR...
OR THE YEAR BEFORE LAST?
RIGHT.
BUT...

HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE MAIN STAFF...
FOR PROJECT "7 SEEDS"
WHAT?!
DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
TAKASHI-SENSEI WAS AT OUR INSTITUTION...
AS A TEACHER.
HE WAS VERY BUSY,
PUZZLING OVER PENSION ISSUES.
I NEVER HEARD ABOUT ANY OF THIS.
THIS MAN?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
HE DILIGENTLY WENT TO THE PUBLIC OFFICE EVERY DAY.


THIS MAN?

RAN-SAN,
WHERE DID YOU GET THIS PHOTO?!

AND A LOT OLDER.
WITH-OUT A MUS-TACHE.
THIS IS TAKASHI-SENSEI.
THAT'S RIGHT.


I FOUND IT IN A STAFF ROOM AT RYUGU SHELTER.
IT WAS IN A PICTURE FRAME.
IT HAS "OUR LAST SUMMER WITH HANA." WRITTEN ON ITS BACK.
THIS IS YOU, RIGHT?

We never took photos, so this is very rare.
WAS TAKASHI-SENSEI.
THIS ISN'T SURPRISING.
BECAUSE THE "TAKASHI-SAN" THAT'S MENTIONED IN THE DIARY...
HIS HOBBY WAS MURDERER.

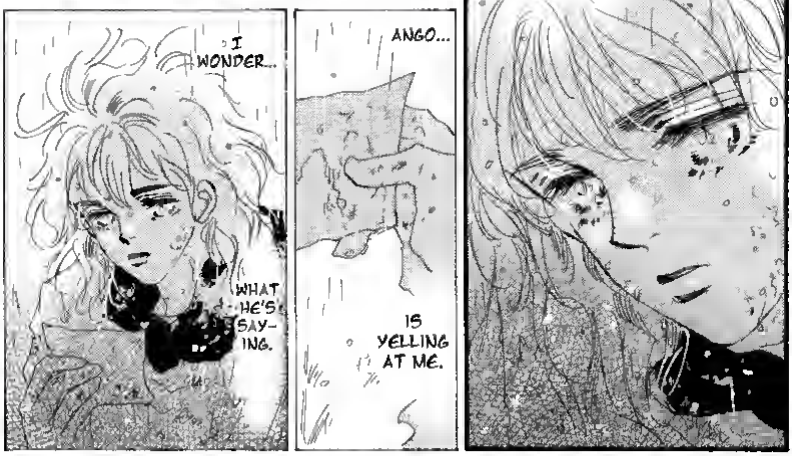
THIS PHOTO
IS THE ONE WE TOOK BACK THEN,
DAD
MOM.
DURING THAT TRIP
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST SAW THEIR FACES.
SHE FOUND IT...
IN RYUGU SHELTER...?

YOU SAID THAT HE HATED BAD JOKES?
HE ENJOYED THEM, I DARE SAY.
FROM MARK'S DIARY...
THROW US INTO A PIT...
FROM RYUGU SHELTER...?
BY CUTTING A ROPE...
THE...
FOR HIS OWN AMUSEMENT...
HE PLOTTED TO FOOL US,
"TAKASHI-SAN"...
TORMENT US,
SO THAT WE'D HAVE...
TO KILL SHIGERU!
LISTEN TO ME!
YOU...
ARE LUCKY KIDS.

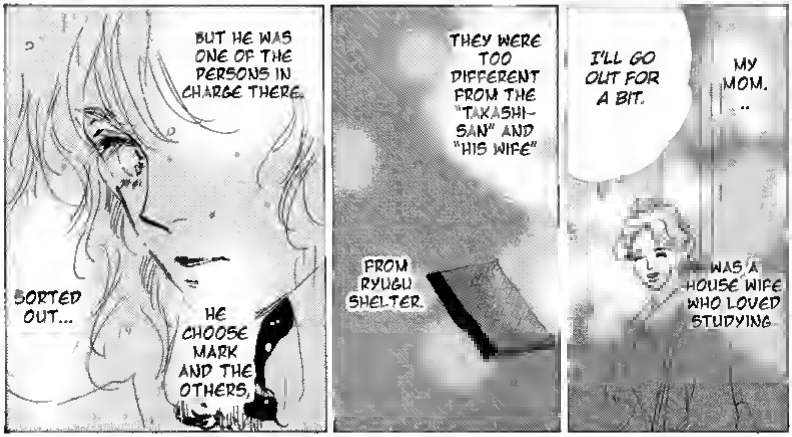
HE WAS TALKING ABOUT YOU.
YOU WERE NEVER SUPPOSED TO COME HERE.
I GUESS...
MAYBE I ENVY YOU GUYS A LITTLE.
BUT THE CHILDREN THAT'LL BE BORN IN THIS DAY AND AGE.
WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO LIVE UNTIL YOUR AGE
BUT STILL, HE SENT YOU ALONG.
JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE HIS DAUGHTER!
YOU WERE SENT HERE WITHOUT ANY TEST...

YOU...
COULD COME HERE...
WITHOUT HAVING TO RUN AROUND IN THE MOUNTAINS LIKE SHIGERU OR US!
THAT'S UNFAIR ...

IT'S UNFAIR...
AND DIRTY...


I WONDER...
WHAT HE'S SAY-ING.
ANGO...
IS YELLING AT ME.

ON HIS DAYS OFF
WHO'D GO INTO THE MOUNTAINS, OR SIT AT HIS COMPUTER...
WAS A TACITURN PUBLIC OFFICER.
MY DAD


BUT HE WAS ONE OF THE PERSONS IN CHARGE THERE.
SORTED OUT...
HE CHOOSE MARK AND THE OTHERS.
THEY WERE TOO DIFFERENT FROM THE "TAKASHI-SAN" AND "HIS WIFE"
FROM RYUGU SHELTER.
I'LL GO OUT FOR A BIT.
MY MOM...
WAS A HOUSE WIFE WHO LOVED STUDYING

WHAT ABOUT KANAME-SAN?

AND KILLED MANY PEOPLE.
AND THEN...

HE WASN'T MENTIONED IN THE DIARY, THOUGH.
DO YOU KNOW MOZUNOTO KANAME?

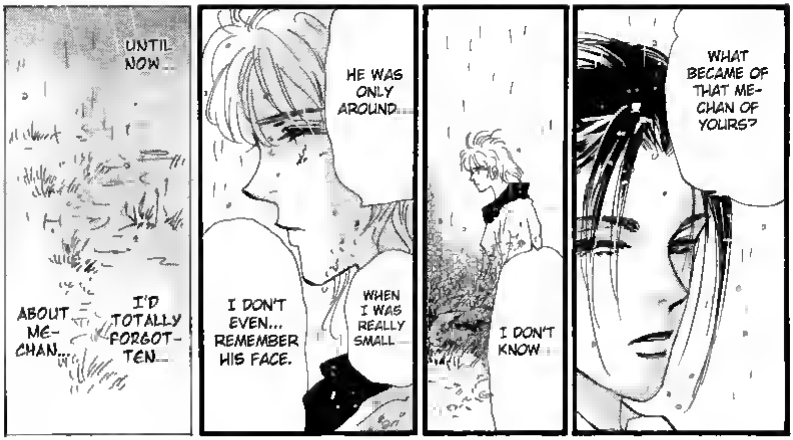
KANAME...
KANAME..
KA-NA-ME...

KANA-ME...?
NO, I DON'T.

SAY, DO YOU KNOW HIM?

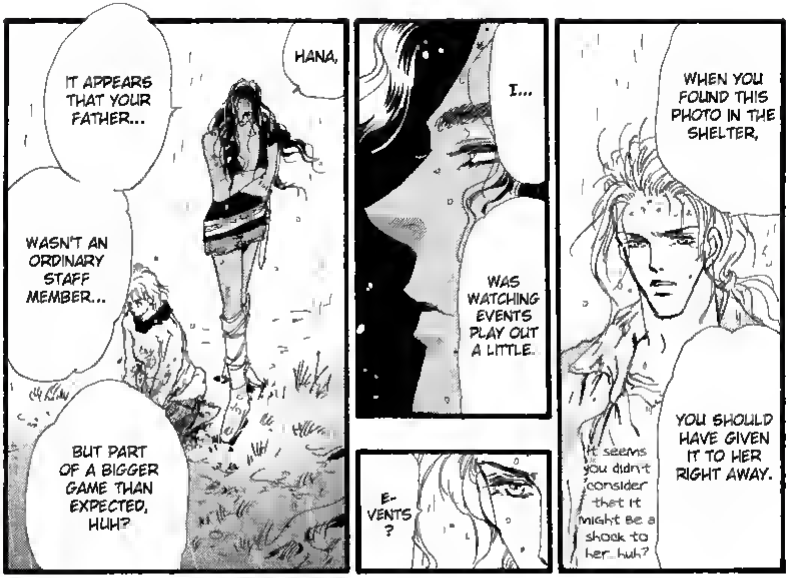
ME-CHAN...?!
ME-CHAN...?
ME-CHAN...?!
KANAME-SAN WAS ONE OF THE MASTER-MINDS, TOO.
NO, MAYBE HE WAS SOMEONE EVEN BIGGER.
SHE MUST KNOW HIM,
BECAUSE HE WAS A FRIEND OF TAKASHI-SAN.

ME-
CHAN...?

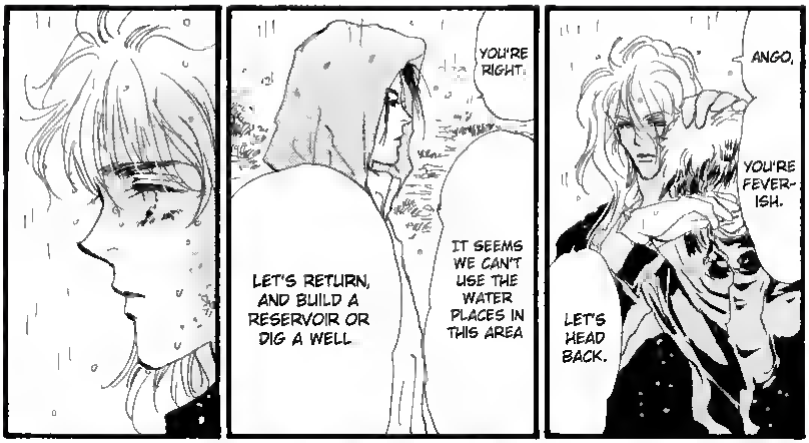

UNTIL NOW...
I'D TOTALLY FORGOT-TEN...
ABOUT ME-CHAN...
I DON'T EVEN... REMEMBER HIS FACE.
WHEN I WAS REALLY SMALL
HE WAS ONLY AROUND...
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT BECAME OF THAT ME-CHAN OF YOURS?

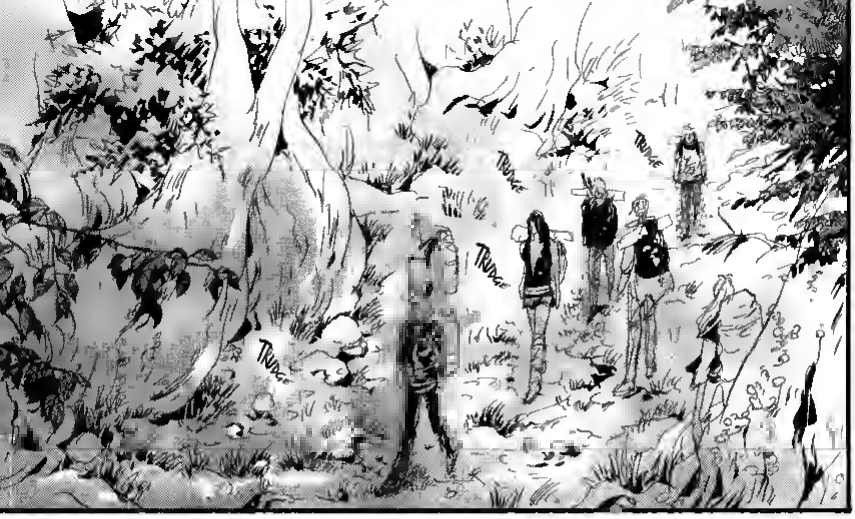
AND ME-CHAN...
THERE WAS MY DAD...

RAN-SAN,
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?


HANA,
IT APPEARS THAT YOUR FATHER...
WASN'T AN ORDINARY STAFF MEMBER...
BUT PART OF A BIGGER GAME THAN EXPECTED, HUH?
I...
WAS WATCHING EVENTS PLAY OUT A LITTLE.
E-VENTS ?
WHEN YOU FOUND THIS PHOTO IN THE SHELTER,
YOU SHOULD HAVE GIVEN IT TO HER RIGHT AWAY.
It seems you didn't consider that it might be a shock to her... huh?

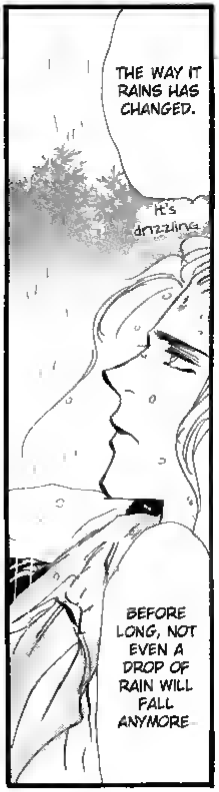
I WONDER IF THE PERSON WHO CHOSE US AND CAST US HERE...
WAS YOUR FATHER, TOO?
I'M SURE HE USED THE MONEY...
THAT YOU COULDN'T BUY ANYTHING IN THE FUTURE WITH ANYMORE AS HE PLEASED.
RE-SPON-SIBLE FOR PEN-SIONS?


YOU'RE RIGHT.
IT SEEMS WE CAN'T USE THE WATER PLACES IN THIS AREA
LET'S RETURN, AND BUILD A RESERVOIR OR DIG A WELL
ANGO,
YOU'RE FEVERISH.
LET'S HEAD BACK.


TRUDGE
TRUDGE
TRUDGE
TRUDGE

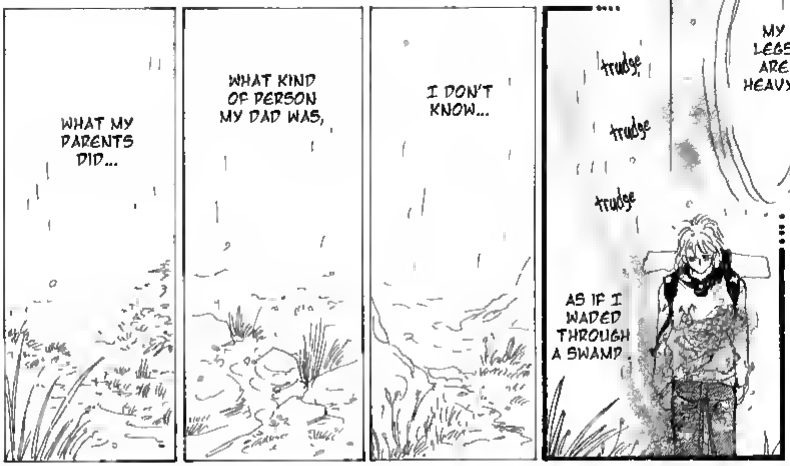
TRUDGE
TRUDGE
YOU PROBABLY TRIED
TO DRAW THE CURTAIN OVER THAT INCIDENT BY CLEVERLY TALKING ROUND THE SUBJECT,
BUT LET ME TELL YOU ONE THING,
ANGO.

TRUDGE
TRUDGE
TRUDGE
LIS-
TEN,


THE WAY IT RAINS HAS CHANGED.
It's drizzling
BEFORE LONG, NOT EVEN A DROP OF RAIN WILL FALL ANYMORE

WHEN YOU ATTACK ME NEXT TIME,
DON'T HIT ME FROM BEHIND...
BUT ATTACK ME HEAD-ON.

HARU,
SO STAY BEHIND ME.
I REALLY WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST HIM,
BECAUSE I'M A PROUD MAN...
JUST LIKE YOU GUYS ARE.
I WON'T RUN AWAY,
AND I'M NOT REPENTANT,
TO HEAR ABOUT THAT "DEATH" CHARACTER LATER IN DETAIL
I'D LIKE...
trudge
trudge
trudge
ANGO.


WHAT MY PARENTS DID...
WHAT KIND OF PERSON MY DAD WAS,
I DON'T KNOW...
MY LEGS ARE HEAVY.
trudge
trudge
trudge
AS IF I WADED THROUGH A SWAMP.

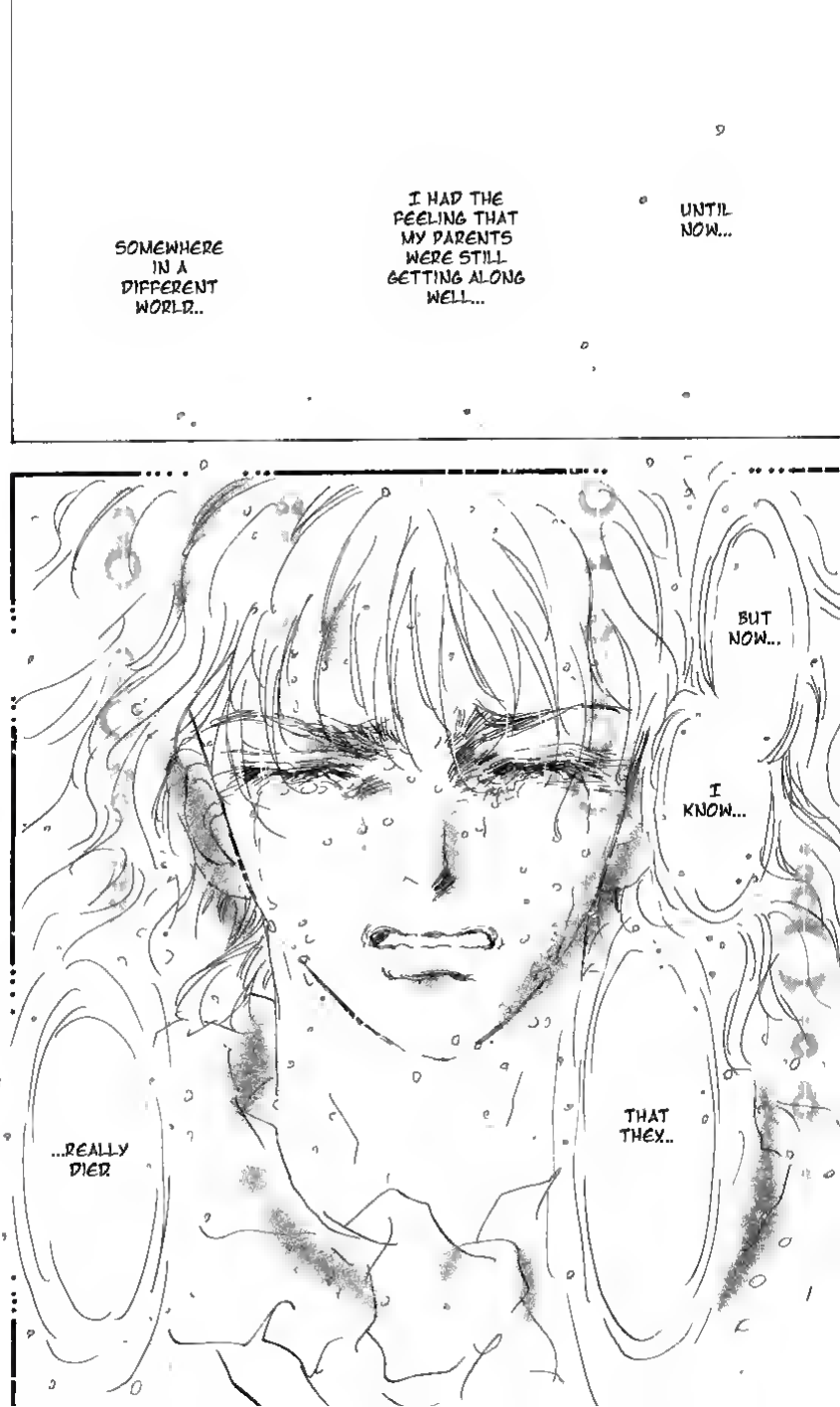
OR WHAT HE DID TO TEAM SUMMER A.

THESE PEOPLE ARE TELLING THE TRUTH, I GUESS.
THE PHOTO IS GENUINE, TOO.
WHEN THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT ME-CHAN...
THEY KIND OF CONVINCED ME.
BUT...
THERE'S ONE THING THAT IS CLEAR.

AT LEAST...
ONE THING IS CLEAR.
I REMEMBER THE DAY WHEN WE TOOK IT.
IN THE SHELTER,
BACK THEN, WHEN I WAS READING MARK'S DIARY.

I WIT-
NESSED
THE LAST
DAYS...

IN THE
LIVES OF
MY
PARENTS...


SOMEWHERE IN A DIFFERENT WORLD...
I HAD THE FEELING THAT MY PARENTS WERE STILL GETTING ALONG WELL...
UNTIL NOW...
BUT NOW...
I KNOW...
THAT THEY..
...REALLY DIED

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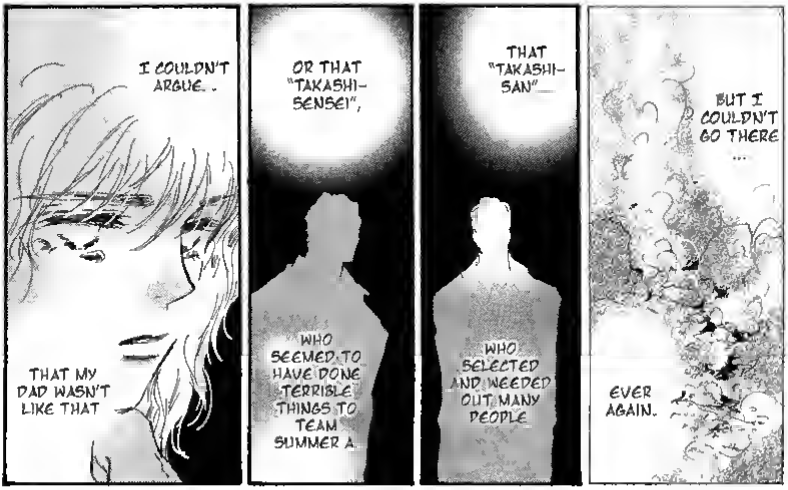
Summer Solstice Chapter 16

【— Thirst —】

I WANTED TO GO BACK TO THAT SHELTER
AND VISIT MY PARENTS' ROOM

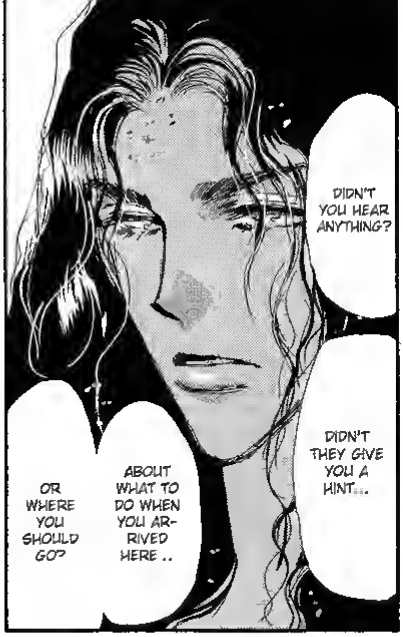
I WANTED TO SEE THE ROOM...
WHERE THIS PHOTO STOOD


I COULDN'T ARGUE...
THAT MY DAD WASN'T LIKE THAT
OR THAT "TAKASHI-SENSEI",
WHO SEEMED TO HAVE DONE TERRIBLE THINGS TO TEAM SUMMER A
THAT "TAKASHI-SAN"—
WHO SELECTED AND WEEDED OUT MANY PEOPLE
BUT I COULDN'T GO THERE ...
EVER AGAIN.

MY PARENTS...
WERE LYING TO ME ALL THIS TIME
I DON'T KNOW WHERE MY MOM WENT...
WHEN SHE HEADED TO HER SO-CALLED LESSONS, EITHER
IF I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM
I NEVER SAW HIM AT WORK, IN HIS PUBLIC OFFICE
ISN'T THERE A LETTER, OR A SECRETLY STASHED MESSAGE,
YOU COULD AT LEAST HAVE PUT IN A WORD OF EXPLANATION, DAD
MOM?
rustle
rustle
clatter
ISN'T THERE
SOME-THING IN MY PACK?

THAT I FOUND IN THAT SHELTER...
MAYBE THIS NECK-LACE...
REALLY BELONGED TO MY MOM
RUSTLE
HANA
I WAS KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU...
AFTER I FOUND THIS PHOTO IN THAT SHELTER,
BECAUSE I THOUGHT THAT YOU MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING, YOU SEE.

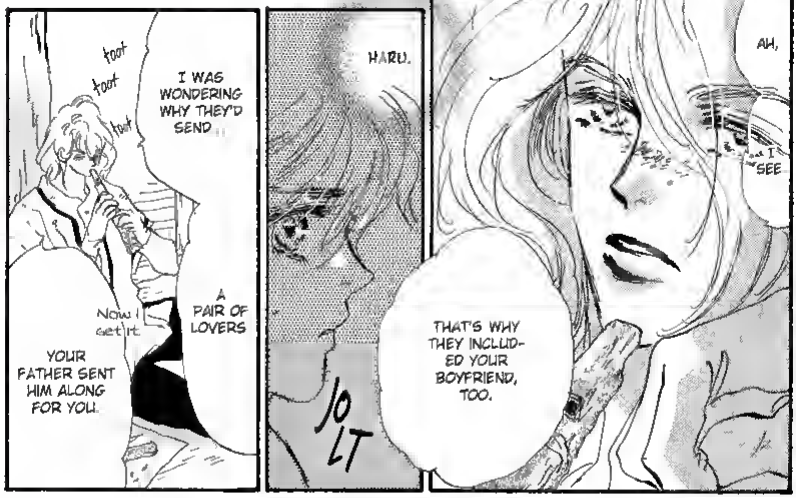
A HINT ?!
I DIDN'T HEAR ANY-THING,
AND THEY DIDN'T TELL ME ANYTHING
RAN-SAN...

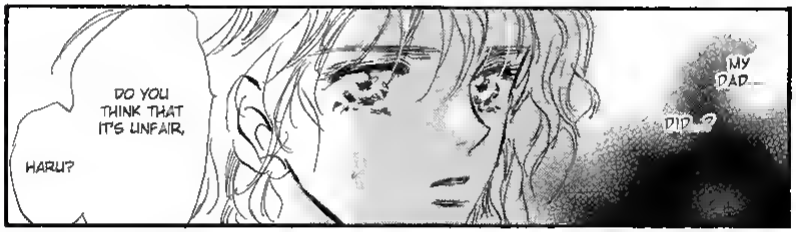

DIDN'T YOU HEAR ANYTHING?
DIDN'T THEY GIVE YOU A HINT...
ABOUT WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU AR-RIVED HERE ..
OR WHERE YOU SHOULD GO?

REALLY ?
I THOUGHT...
I'D BECOME FRIENDS WITH HER.
IF YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING, TELL ME.

I'M FULL OF HATE AGAINST THE PEOPLE
WHO SENT ME HERE.
JOLT
BECAUSE MY DAD...
WAS ONE OF THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PROJECT.
I WONDER...
WHAT EVERYBODY THINKS OF ME...

SHOCK
I'LL NEVER CEASE..
BLAMING THEM
ARAMAKI-SAN
HANA-SAN.
I'LL TAKE OVER TODAY'S DUTIES FOR YOU,
SO TAKE YOUR TIME AND REST.
AH... HUH? THANK YOU
ARA-MAKI-SAN.


toot toot toot
I WAS WONDERING WHY THEY'D SEND A PAIR OF LOVERS
Now I get it.
YOUR FATHER SENT HIM ALONG FOR YOU.
HARU.
JOLT
THAT'S WHY THEY INCLUDED YOUR BOYFRIEND, TOO.
AH, I SEE


DO YOU THINK THAT IT'S UNFAIR, HARU?
MY DAD... DID...?

I WONDER WHY DAD SENT ARASHI ALONG?
MAYBE ARASHI KNOWS SOMETHING...

BUT...
STING
YOU THINK THAT IT'S UNFAIR
ADULTS ARE THE ONES WHO CONSCIOUSLY DECEIVE,
SO IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT, HANA
AND WELL, YOUR PARENTS ACTED WITHOUT ASKING YOU,

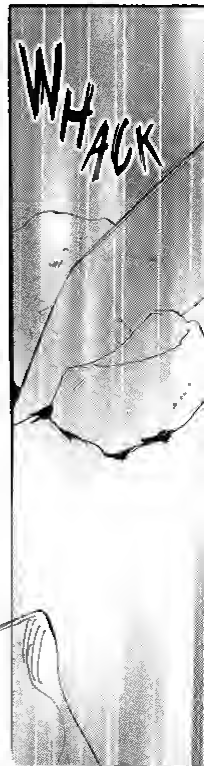
TOK
TOK

I'm cutting it into small cubes.
TOK
TOK
Peel
Peel
I DON'T KNOW...
BUT THAT DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HER, DOES IT?
WHAT HANA-SAN'S FATHER DID TO ALL OF YOU.

Substitute ? Is that a baseball term? I read it in a dictionary.
ME TOO.
Today it's hotpot with potatoes.
ANGO'S FEVER ROSE,
AND HE JUST FELL ASLEEP.

I'M...
THE DUTY SUBSTI-TUTE.

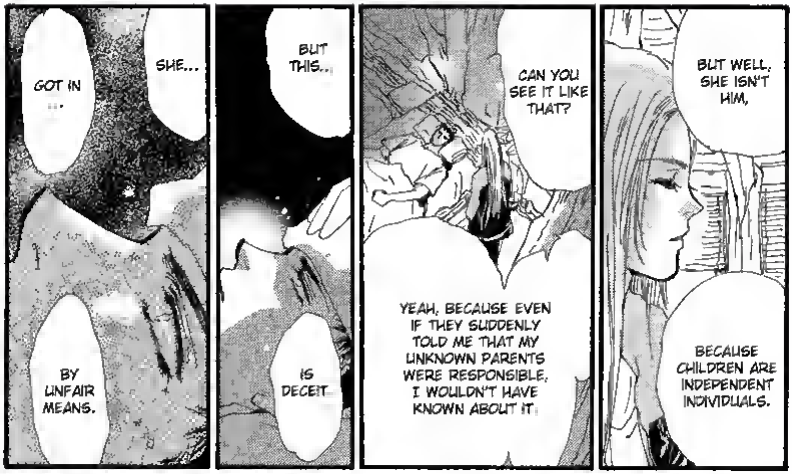
IF EVERYBODY THOUGHT ABOUT EVERYTHING LIKE THAT
THERE WOULDN'T . .
BE ANY WARS OR TERROR IN HISTORY, WOULD THERE?

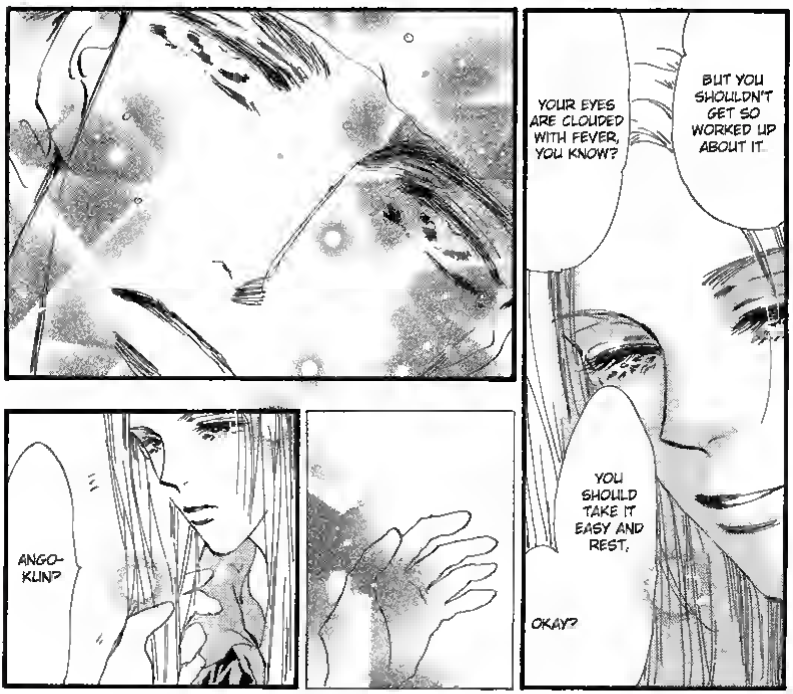

WHACK

*Wild orchid roots used to be especially applied in pediatrics to cure irritations of the stomach and the intestinal tract. The flour of wild orchid roots was also said to be an aphrodisiac in the ancient orient.

THOSE ARE QUITE NATURAL CHANGES, WHICH ARE CALLED SECONDARY SEX CHARACTERISTICS
IT'S NOTHING TO WORRY OR TO BE ASHAMED ABOUT
STARTING NOW,
YOUR BODIES, BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS, WILL UNDERGO VARIOUS CHANGES.
WELL, YOU SEE,
SOMETHING'S COMING OUT.
It's going to occur frequently
Will I die out now?!
THIS MUST BE THE STUFF WE LEARNED ABOUT THE OTHER DAY.
SO THAT YOU CAN COPE WITH IT INFALLIBLY.
YOU HAVE TO HAVE A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROCESS,
IT'S ONE OF THE PROCESSES THAT WILL ENABLE YOU TO CONCEIVE CHILDREN IN THE FUTURE
Whinny
AH, THE COWS AND HORSES ARE DOING IT NOW.
The insects, too.
WANT TO SEE IT?
SOON WHEN WE FORM AN ANIMAL CLASS.
IT'D BE BEST IF YOU COULD SEE THE REPRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS ANIMALS, I SUPPOSE.

pat
MA-DONNA.
IT JUST WON'T GO DOWN
Hmh!
RYO-KUN SAID THAT IT'S BECAUSE YOU GOT TOO WORKED UP
BAN-CHAN IS WORKING ON ALL KINDS OF CURES
SO IT SEEMS
THAT GIRL
I HEARD THAT SHE'S TAKASHI-SENSEI'S DAUGHTER?
SUR-PRISING, ISN'T IT?
EVEN THOUGH TAKASHI-SENSEI WASN'T AROUND AT THE TIME YET
SHI-GERU WAS THERE
I GOT IT ALL MESSED UP.
Why about something like that?
I HAD A PRETTY CRAZY DREAM.
ABOUT LONG AGO.

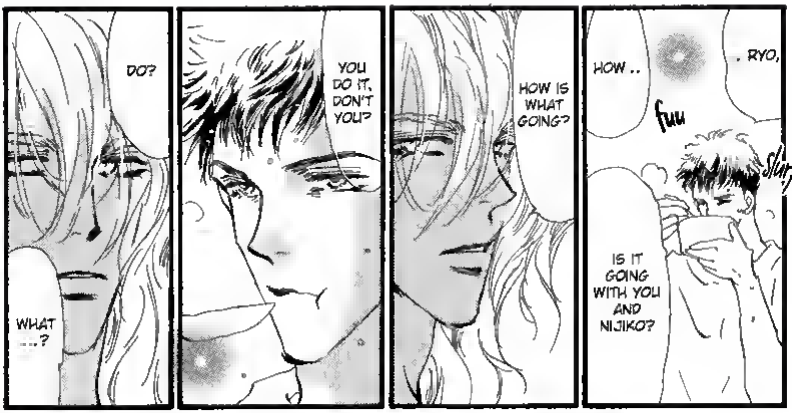

SHE...
GOT IN ...
BY UNFAIR MEANS.
BUT THIS...
IS DECEIT.
CAN YOU SEE IT LIKE THAT?
YEAH, BECAUSE EVEN IF THEY SUDDENLY TOLD ME THAT MY UNKNOWN PARENTS WERE RESPONSIBLE, I WOULDN'T HAVE KNOWN ABOUT IT.
BUT WELL, SHE ISN'T HIM,
BECAUSE CHILDREN ARE INDEPENDENT INDIVIDUALS.

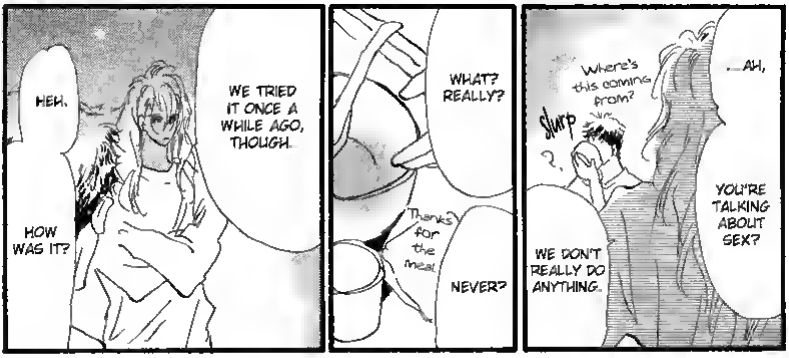

BUT YOU SHOULDN'T GET SO WORKED UP ABOUT IT.
YOUR EYES ARE CLOUDED WITH FEVER, YOU KNOW?
YOU SHOULD TAKE IT EASY AND REST.
OKAY?
ANGO-KUN?

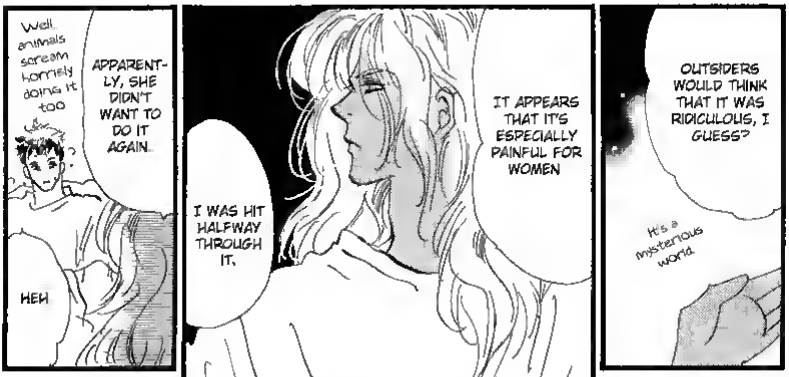
N...
HEY!
STOP IT!
STO
ME

ANGO-KUN,
I WAS A BIT OFF-BALANCE...
DURING THAT FULL MOON NIGHT,
AND I'M THANKFUL THAT YOU HELD ME IN YOUR ARMS...
AND CALMED ME
BUT...
DON'T THINK THAT YOU CAN DO AS YOU PLEASE
THAT DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING

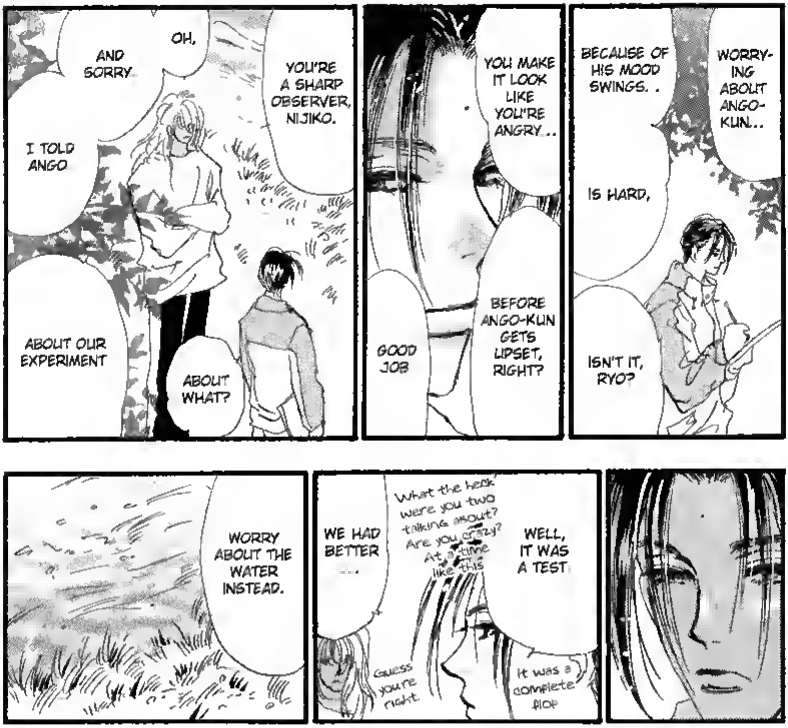
NOTHING...
WHAT'S WRONG?
ANGO,
I BROUGHT YOU...
SOMETHING TO EAT.
YOU LOOK HORRIBLE.
You're burning up.
WE'D BE IN TROUBLE IF YOU STAYED UNWELL.
EAT, AND THEN SLEEP.
CLATTER
I MADE SOMETHING LIGHT FOR YOU.
CAN YOU SIT UP AND EAT?

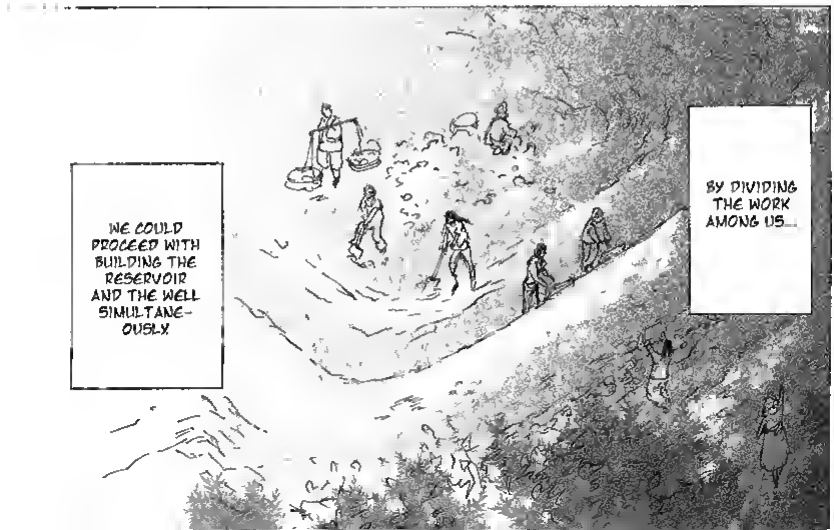

DO?
WHAT ...?
YOU DO IT, DON'T YOU?
HOW IS WHAT GOING?
HOW ..
. RYO,
fuu
Slurp
IS IT GOING WITH YOU AND NIJIKO?


HEH.
HOW WAS IT?
WE TRIED IT ONCE A WHILE AGO, THOUGH.
WHAT? REALLY?
Thanks for the meal
NEVER?
...AH,
Where's this coming from?
Slurp
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SEX?
WE DON'T REALLY DO ANYTHING.


Well animals scream horribly doing it too
APPARENTLY, SHE DIDN'T WANT TO DO IT AGAIN.
HEH
I WAS HIT HALFWAY THROUGH IT.
IT APPEARS THAT IT'S ESPECIALLY PAINFUL FOR WOMEN
OUTSIDERS WOULD THINK THAT IT WAS RIDICULOUS, I GUESS?
It's a mysterious world.

A PREGNANCY OR CHILDBIRTH WOULD BE TOO RISKY
BOTH THE CLIMATE AND THE LIVING CONDITIONS ARE UNSTABLE
YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL NOW
IT'S DOUBTFUL IF THAT GIRL, KURUMI, WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE BIRTH WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE TOO.
NO, I DIDN'T
I WAS DELIRIOUS WITH FEVER
AH!
YOU DID SOMETHING TO MADONNA, DIDN'T YOU?
IF ALL OF THEM DIED, WE'D BE DONE FOR.
THE FACT IS THAT ONLY WOMEN CAN BEAR CHILDREN.
NOTHING, REALLY
WHAT ARE YOU GRINNING ABOUT, RYO?
That's rare.
IS A RELIEF
... ANYWAY, THAT YOU RACKED YOUR BRAINS OVER SUCH A STUPID THING...
GET SOME SLEEP


OH, AND SORRY.
I TOLD ANGO
ABOUT OUR EXPERIMENT
YOU'RE A SHARP OBSERVER, NIJIKO.
ABOUT WHAT?
YOU MAKE IT LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ANGRY...
GOOD JOB
BEFORE ANGO-KUN GETS UPSET, RIGHT?
BECAUSE OF HIS MOOD SWINGS..
WORRYING ABOUT ANGO-KUN...
IS HARD,
ISN'T IT, RYO?
WORRY ABOUT THE WATER INSTEAD.
WE HAD BETTER ...
What the heck were you two talking about? Are you crazy? At a time like this
WELL, IT WAS A TEST
Guess you're right
It was a complete BOR


WE COULD PROCEED WITH BUILDING THE RESERVOIR AND THE WELL SIMULTANEOUSLY
BY DIVIDING THE WORK AMONG US...

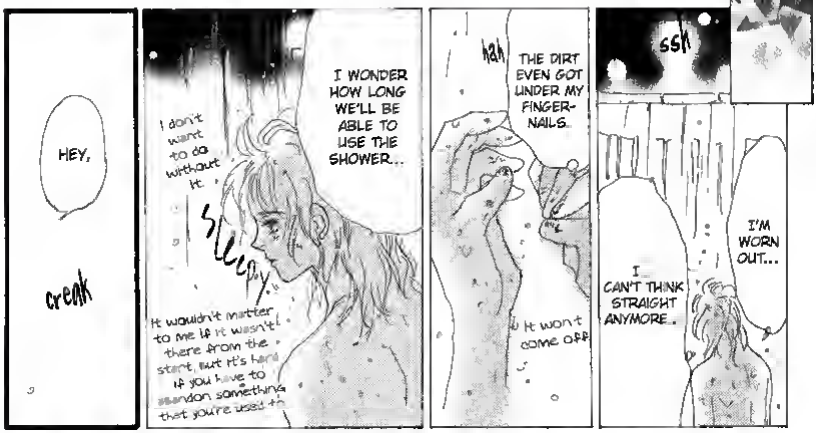
YOU CAME HERE BY UNFAIR MEANS,
SO AT LEAST MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL BY DOING THE WORK...
OF YOUR UNDER-HANDED FATHER, TOO.
WHACK
DIG...
I'll lend you tools.
THIS WELL ON YOUR OWN
DID YOU NEVER THINK ABOUT...
WHAT... YOU MIGHT EXPOSE ME TO?
DID IT NEVER CROSS YOUR MIND...
THAT I COULD MEET THEM HERE?
WHACK
DAD!
help
CRACK
WHAT DID YOU DO TO TEAM SUMMER A?
CHOP
CHOP
WHACK
WHACK
WHACK
WHACK

YOU COULD AT LEAST HAVE SAID A WORD
OR ASKED ME ABOUT WHAT I'D LIKE TO DO
I HAVE NO IDEA...
HOW TO FACE ARAMAKI-SAN
EVERYBODY BECAME KIND OF RESERVED
THE OPTION TO GO TO A SHELTER WITH ARASHI AND ALL THE OTHERS, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT LIKE I WANTED TO COME HERE
I'D ALSO HAVE HAD...
WITH ARASHI
Shit I want to strike water so I'll work hard
I WANT TO MEET HIM
I COULD TALK ABOUT MY PARENTS
Whack
Whack
STOP FOOL-ING A-ROUND
ARASHI...

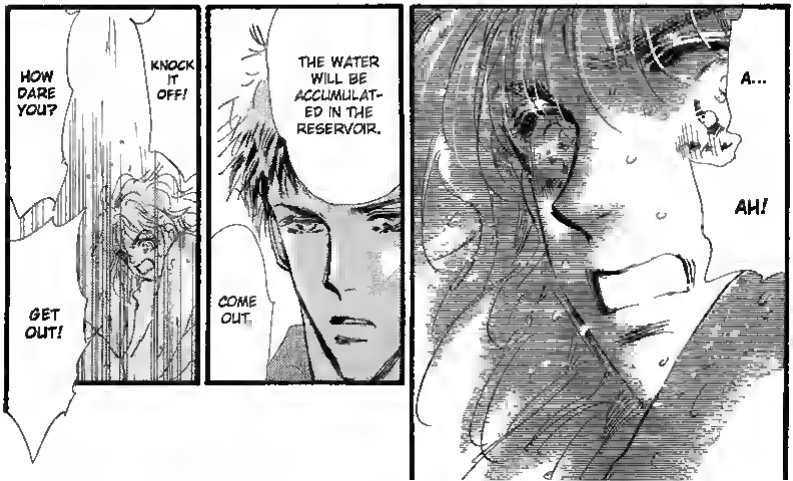
MY DAD USUALLY IGNORED HIM...
Thanks for the meal.
AFTER ARASHI'S MOTHER DIED...
HE OFTEN CAME TO OUR HOUSE TO EAT.
How come your plate is always so clean after you eat?
Learn a lesson from him.
This is good.
MY MOM WAS FOND OF HIM,
AND HE LIKED MY MOM'S HOMEMADE DONUTS.
MY DAD DIDN'T CARE MUCH FOR ARASHI.
AT FIRST
HE'S A SOFTY.
SAKU-YA!
HAVE HER DO IT ON HER OWN!
WHAT? BUT IT WOULD BE FASTER IF I HELPED HER REMOVE THE SOIL
SHE HAS TO DO IT ALONE!
I'LL TAKE YOUR PLACE.
JUMP
THIS IS HOW FATHERS ARE, YOU SEE
HAD SUCH NORMAL FEELINGS...
THAT MY INDIFFERENT FATHER...
WAS A BIT SURPRISING...

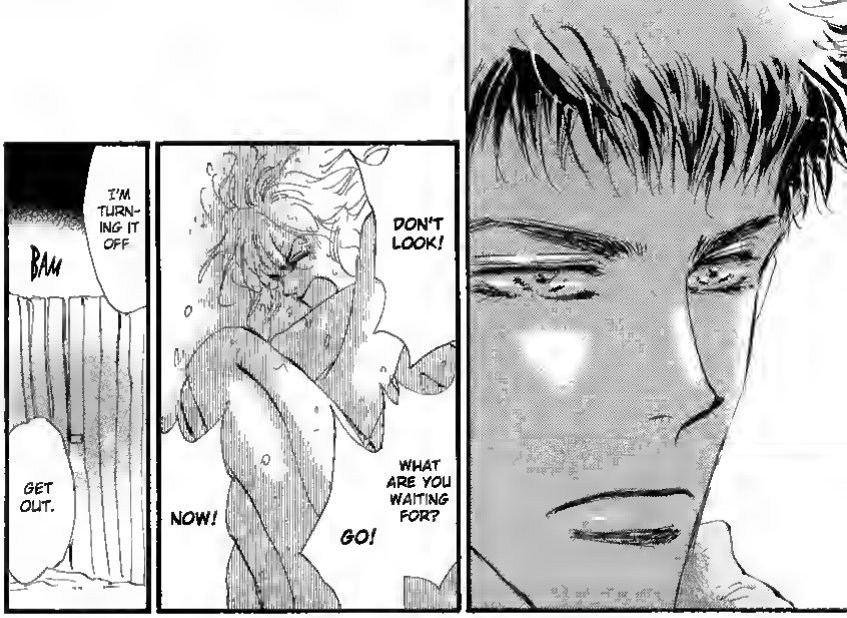
HOW WE WERE CHOSEN
IF YOU PUT IT THAT WAY, NONE OF US KNOW...
MAYBE IT'S THROUGH OUR PARENT'S CONNEC-TIONS,
because my parents were very influential too
IT'S BECAUSE, FOR THEM, I'M LIKE SOMEONE...
WHO BOUGHT HER WAY INTO COLLEGE.
And after all sullying just wastes time.
People who work voluntarily are usually more productive.
HE HATES YOU, HUH?
I GUESS SO...
WELL, YOU SHOULDN'T TAKE IT TO HEART.
DUMB PEOPLE WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND, HUH?
hep
creak
creak
See you
YOU COULD COMPARE IT TO GETTING IN BY UNFAIR MEANS.
EVEN THOUGH COMING HERE WASN'T TO OUR ADVANTAGE,
slide
crack
whack
whack
I'm going to become all sulky!
chop
chop
hah
hah
THANK YOU,
SAKUYA-KUN...

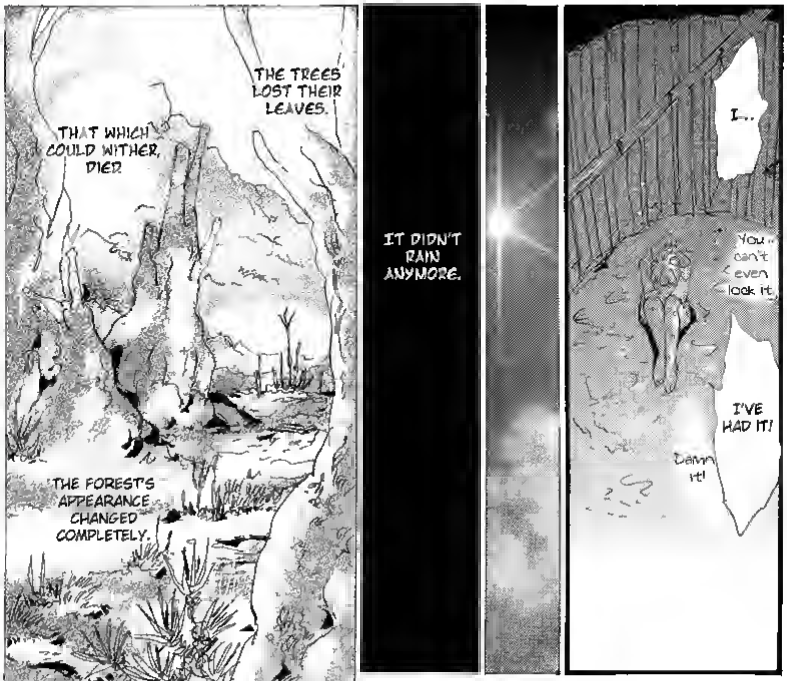
Uuh! Shit it's slippery
Jolt
No way
Pa
IT'S STILL LIGHT
What are you doing?
GO BACK DOWN AND DIG
Phew
Wheeze
DID YOU WANT TO TRAP ME?
TOO BAD FOR YOU.
Pump
Hah

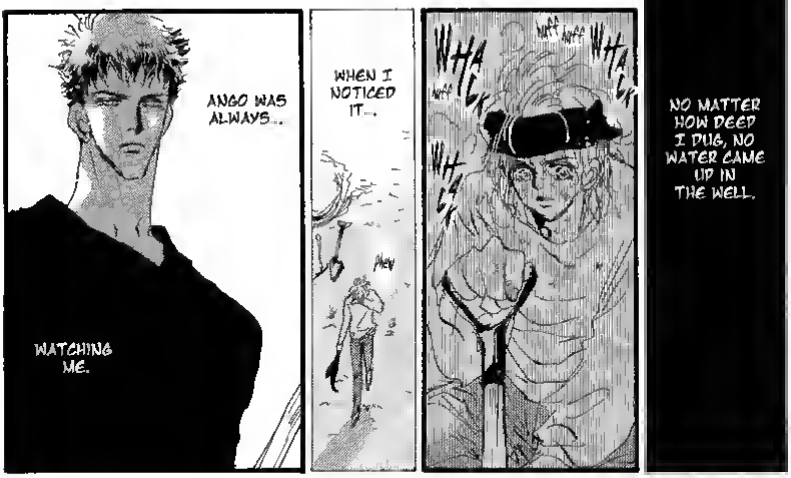

HEY,
creak
I WONDER HOW LONG WE'LL BE ABLE TO USE THE SHOWER...
I don't want to do without it.
Sluuy
It wouldn't matter to me if it wasn't there from the start, but it's hard if you have to abandon something that you're used to.
hah
THE DIRT EVEN GOT UNDER MY FINGER-NAILS.
It won't come off.
ssh
I'M WORN OUT...
I CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT ANYMORE.

I'M GOING TO TURN OFF THE SHOWER NOW.
BATHING WILL BE LIMITED TOO,
SO ASK FOR IT IN ADVANCE IF YOU WANT TO USE THE BATH.


HOW DARE YOU?
KNOCK IT OFF!
GET OUT!
THE WATER WILL BE ACCUMULAT-ED IN THE RESERVOIR.
COME OUT.
A...
AH!

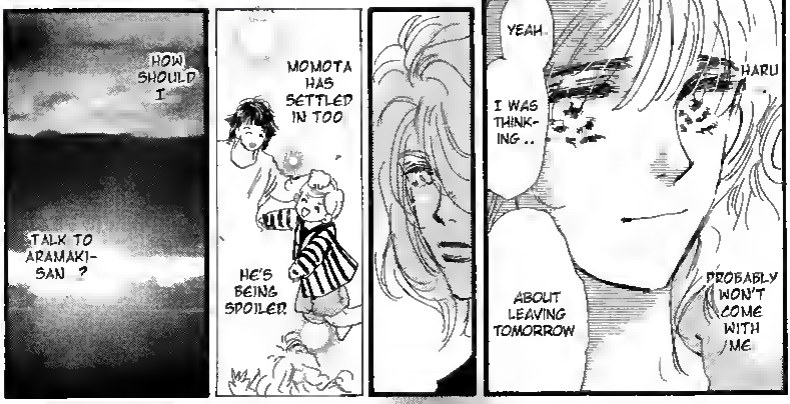

I'M TURNING IT OFF
BAM
GET OUT.
DON'T LOOK!
NOW!
GO!
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?


THE TREES LOST THEIR LEAVES.
THAT WHICH COULD WITHER, DIED.
THE FOREST'S APPEARANCE CHANGED COMPLETELY.
IT DIDN'T RAIN ANYMORE.
I...
You can't even look it.
I'VE HAD IT!
Damn it!

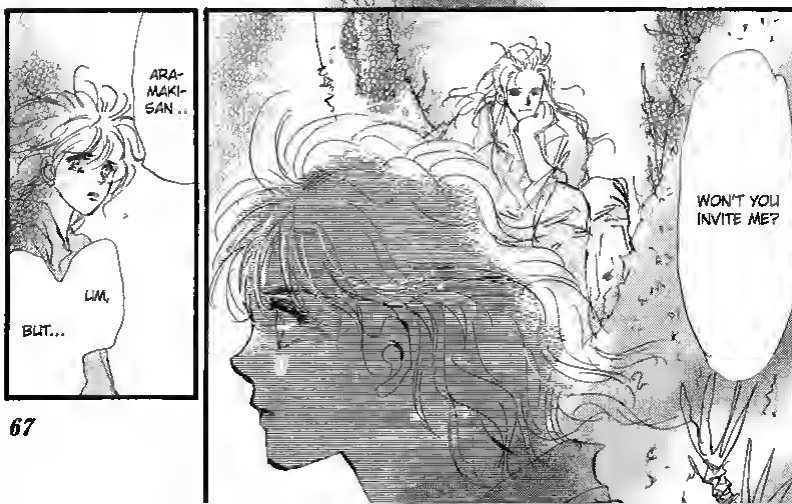

ANGO WAS ALWAYS...
WATCHING ME.
WHEN I NOTICED IT...
NO MATTER HOW DEEP I DUG, NO WATER CAME UP IN THE WELL.
THERE WAS NO WATER.

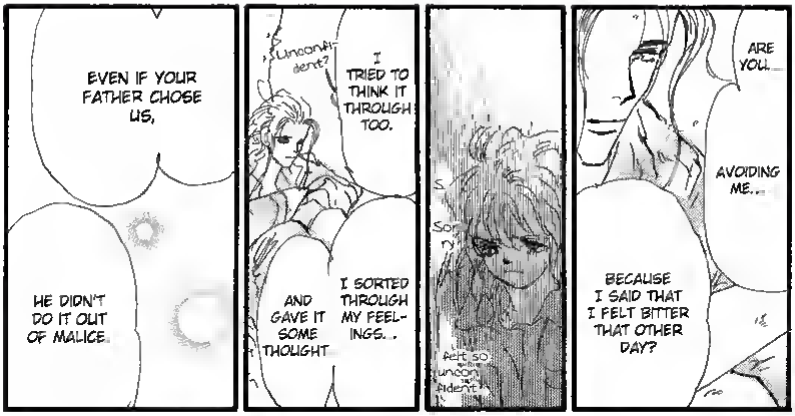
I COULD TELL...
THERE WAS NO WATER.
THAT ANGO'S IRRITATION WAS RISING.

RADIATED HEAT
HIS BODY...
WITH HIS EYES
AND HE KILLED ME
HUH?
YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE?
HARU..
IF THERE'S ONE PERSON LESS, THE WATER WILL LAST LONGER.
HOW LONG WILL THEY EVEN BE ABLE TO GET ALONG WITH THAT RESER-VOIR...?
I'LL LEAVE THIS PLACE.
HE'S SERIOUSLY SCARING ME.
I can't take it anymore.
SIGH


HOW SHOULD I
TALK TO ARAMAKI-SAN ?
MOMOTA HAS SETTLED IN TOO
HE'S BEING SPOILED
YEAH.
I WAS THINK-ING ..
HARU
ABOUT LEAVING TOMORROW
PROBABLY WON'T COME WITH ME.

ON MY OWN...?
SHOULD I GO...


ARA-MAKI-SAN..
UM, BUT...
WON'T YOU INVITE ME?


EVEN IF YOUR FATHER CHOSE US,
HE DIDN'T DO IT OUT OF MALICE.
Uncomfortable?
I TRIED TO THINK IT THROUGH TOO.
I SORTED THROUGH MY FEELINGS. .
AND GAVE IT SOME THOUGHT
Sorry
I felt so uncomfortable
ARE YOU...
AVOIDING ME...
BECAUSE I SAID THAT I FELT BITTER THAT OTHER DAY?

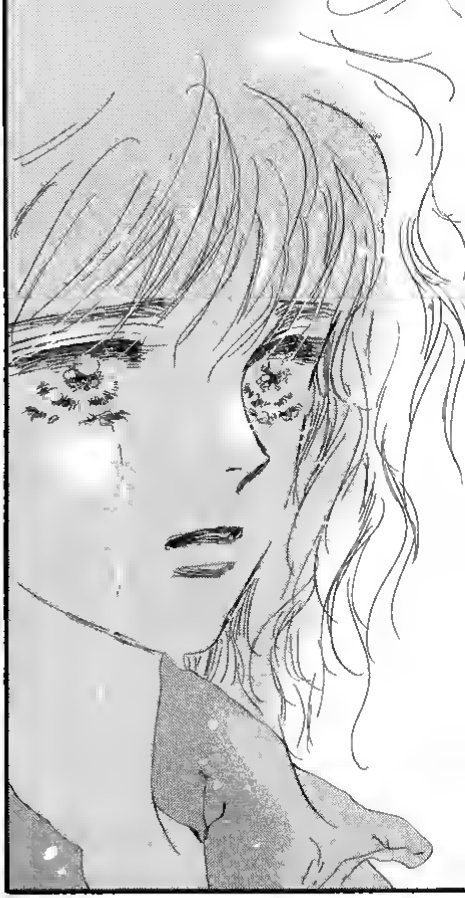
HANA-SAN,
YOU CAN TELL WHEN YOU READ THAT DIARY
YOUR PARENTS RISKED THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR MISSION.
BUT APART FROM IT BEING WRONG OR NOT,

FOR FIFTEEN YEARS.
AND A GRUDGE AGAINST SOMEONE THAT I DIDN'T KNOW...
WITH ANGER AT SOMETHING THAT I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND...
I'VE BEEN LIVING...

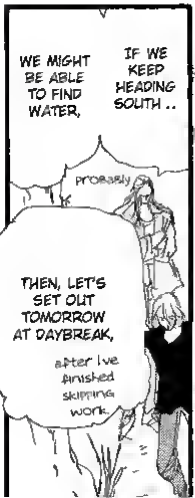
BUT...
THOSE FEELINGS...
LEFT ME THE DAY I MET YOU.
I...
CAN'T HATE YOUR PARENTS
AND YOU
SHOULDN'T THINK ILL OF THEM EITHER.
BECAUSE THE FACT..
THAT YOU ARE HERE NOW LIKE US..
IS PROOF THAT YOU WERE LOVED BY YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER.

I'M STILL IMMATURE.
I'M SORRY I COULDN'T TELL YOU RIGHT AWAY.
Sorry for making you feel awkward.

ARAMAKI-SA.



ARAMAKI-SAN, YOU'RE QUITE ELOQUENT, I SHOULD SAY
WHAT ARE YOU TWO GETTING ALL EMOTIONAL ABOUT?


WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND WATER,
IF WE KEEP HEADING SOUTH..
probably
THEN, LET'S SET OUT TOMORROW AT DAYBREAK,
after I've finished skipping work.

but you
HARU...
LET'S USE THIS OPPORTUNITY...
TO SEARCH FOR FUJIKO-SAN AND THE OTHERS

HANA,
I'LL GO WITH YOU TOO.
I'M SURE THAT MOMOTA WILL COME AS WELL.
That's a given.

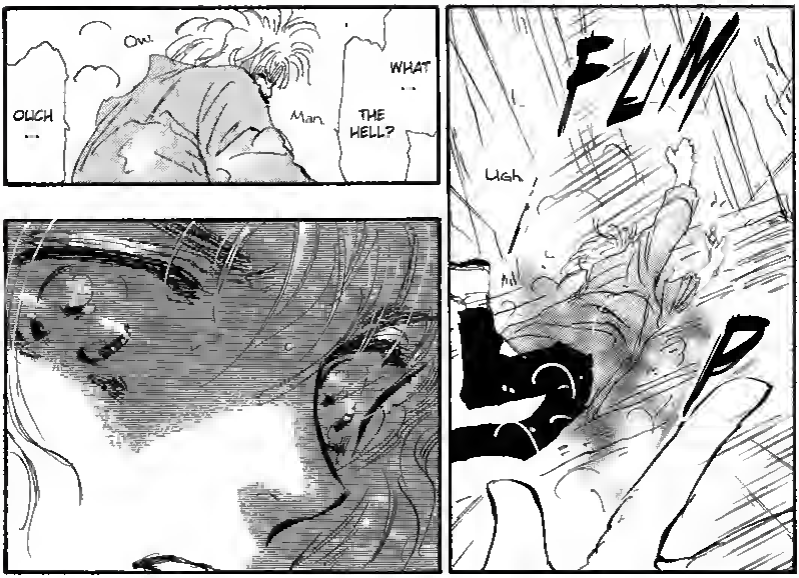
THANK YOU...
Today
I HAVE TO FINISH DIGGING THE WELL.
I'll do my best.
NICK
SNIFF
THANK YOU
ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?
IT'S BETTER THAT WAY FOR BOTH OF US.
THAT'S WHY!
THAT'S RIGHT
ARE YOU GOING TO RUN AWAY, HANA?

GRAB
I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY
YOU'LL WORK HERE..
UNTIL YOU DIE.
SLAP
ST...
STOP IT ALREADY!
LET GO OFF ME, MAN!
YOU'LL PAY...
WITH YOUR BODY!

WOULD YOU STOP LOOKING AT ME LIKE THIS?
THIS IS BAD.
I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT MY DAD.
ABOUT HOW IT WAS AT YOUR PLACE, AND WHAT HE DID.
THIS IS BAD...
STOP IT, HANA.
BUT I CAN'T...
TALK TO YOU.
YOU CAN'T STAND ME, RIGHT?
YOU'RE THROWING OIL ON THE FIRE.
SO I'M GOING TO LEAVE.
PLEASE, LEAVE ME ALONE!
THAT'S YOUR SPECIALTY!

GRA
B

LET ME GO!
DRAG
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DRA
G
HEY!
WHOA!


Ow.
OUCH...
Man.
WHAT...
THE HELL?
FLIP
Ugh.

BAM
I TOLD YOU...
THAT YOU'LL PAY WITH YOUR BODY, DIDN'T I?

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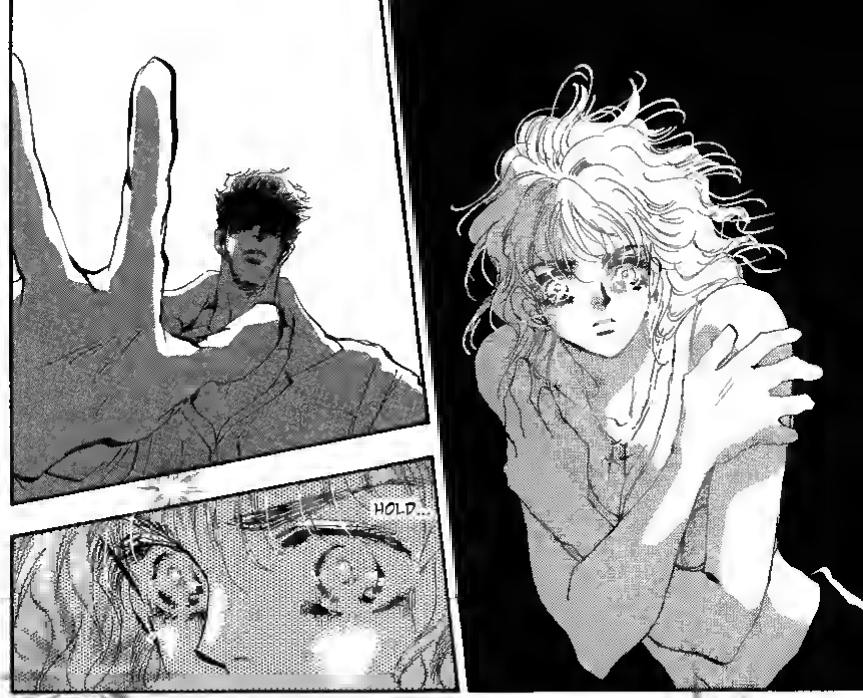
Summer Solstice Chapter 17

【— Escape —】

HE'LL KILL ME.
HE'LL KILL ME.
HIS GLANCE ISN'T NORMAL.
AH...
NO!

RIP
AH!


HOLD...

IT.

WAIT A SEC!
HIS PLAN IS THAT?

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?
YOU'VE ...
GOT TO BE KID-DING!
STOP IT!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
YOU HATE ME, DON'T YOU?
DON'T TOUCH ME.
DON'T YOU DARE TOUCH ME!
WHOA!
BUMP

WHOAAA!
WHAT...
WHY...
WHY IS THIS HAP-PENING?
WITH HIM?
WHAT IS THIS?
ARASHI!

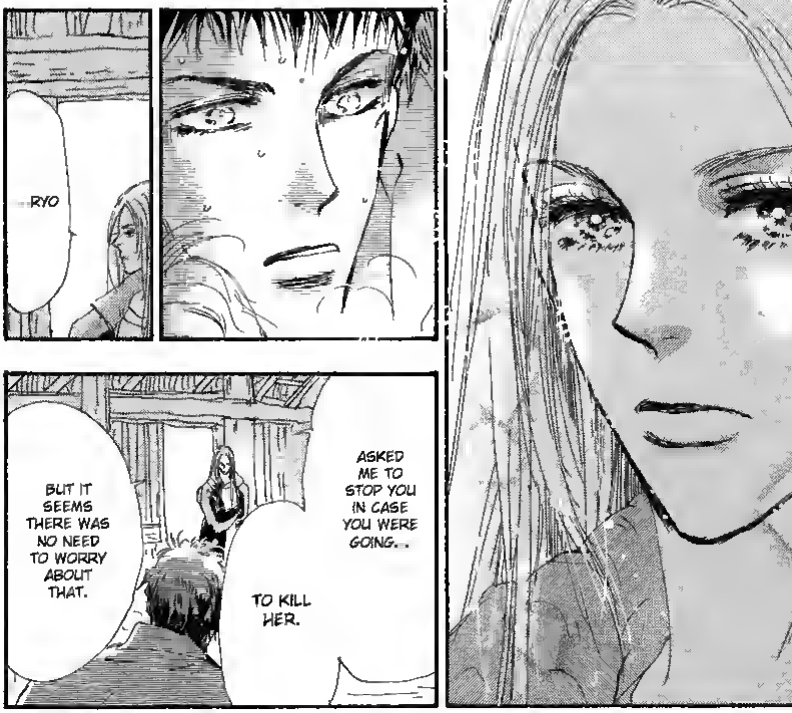
BUT...
HE'S NOT HERE NOW.
HE...
CAME TO MY RESCUE.
BACK THEN...
ARASHI CAME FOR ME.
ARASHI...
ISN'T HERE.
THUMP

Huff
Huff
Wheeze
Wheeze
DAMN ...IT
GET OFF.
Ugh
GET OFF OF ME.

FOR THIS.
BLAME YOUR FATHER

DON'T THINK...
THAT YOU CAN CONTROL ME...
BY DOING THIS!
THAT YOU CAN HURT ME...
WITH THIS.
DON'T THINK...
DON'T THINK...
UH!
STOP IT.
LET GO.

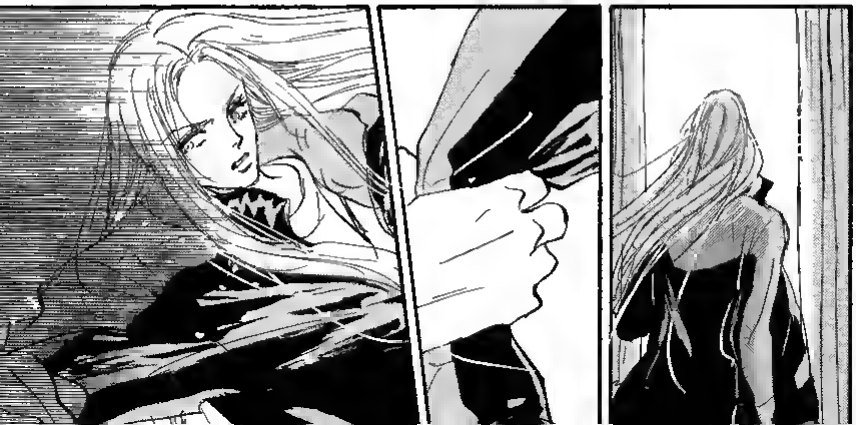
clack
STOP
IIIT!


...RYO
ASKED ME TO STOP YOU IN CASE YOU WERE GOING...
TO KILL HER.
BUT IT SEEMS THERE WAS NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.

KI
FWUP
RYO ...?

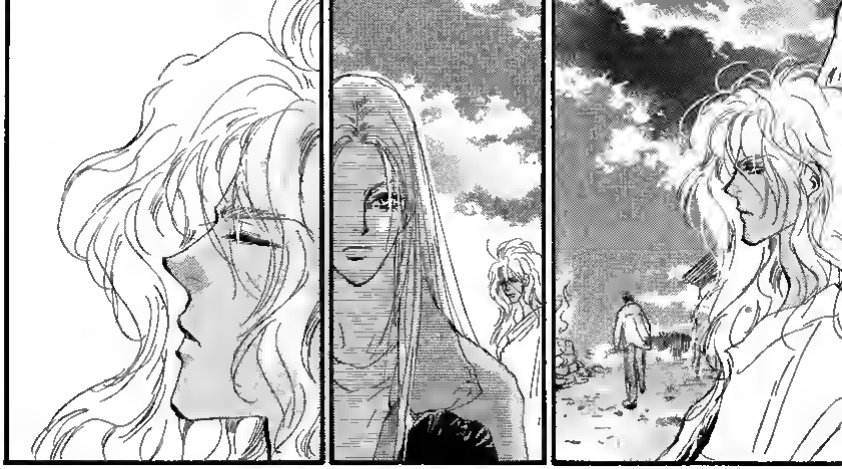
COULD YOU NOT TURN INTO A DIRTY OLD MAN,
ANGO-KUN?
BECAUSE THAT WOULD MAKE ME WANT TO KILL YOU.

I...
DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU KNEW...
HOW TO VIOLATE A WOMAN.



DA
SH
stomp stomp stomp

Huff
Huff
Huff
And when they're so precious
I'LL HAVE TO GO AND SEARCH FOR THEM LATER
hah
hah
MANY
OF THE BUTTONS ARE GONE
Huff
Huff
Huff
hah
hah
hah
HE DIDN'T DO ANY-THING
SOMEONE LIKE HIM CAN'T HURT ME!
DAMN IT ALL!
HE ONLY TOUCHED ME.
STOP CRYING, HANA
SHIT!
IT'S OKAY
DAMN ... IT!
HE DIDN'T DO ANY-THING



ARASHI...
I...
BUT HE...
CAN DO IT IN ORDER TO ATTACK SOMEONE HE HATES, I GUESS.
WOULDN'T WANT TO TOUCH SOMEONE THAT I DON'T LIKE.

ARASHI,
YOU'LL GET HURT.
I DON'T CARE.
BUT YOU'LL GET HURT!
HE'S NO GREAT LOSS,
ARA-SHI!
YOU'LL KILL HIM!
STOP IT!
ARASHI...
AS LONG AS YOU'RE SAFE, HANA,
NOTHING CAN HURT ME.
ARASHI...
DON'T ...
GET HURT...
BECAUSE OF GUYS LIKE THEM EITHER, HANA.
ARASHI...

WRAP...
HOLD ME.
YOUR ARMS...
AROUND ME.
HOLD ME TIGHT.

YOUR ARMS...

Of course.
IT'S ALL JUST BECAUSE SUGURONO GOT INVOLVED WITH GUYS LIKE THEM, ANYWAY...
THAT'S WHAT THE POLICE TOLD ME TOO
SEN-SEI,
YOU'RE THE HOPE OF OUR SWIMMING CLUB.
YOU'LL ALSO CAUSE TROUBLE FOR THE THIRD YEAR STUDENTS I SHOULD SAY.
BUT EVEN YOU MIGHT BE DISQUALIFIED FROM PARTICIPATING IN TOURNAMENTS.
YOU WENT TOO FAR, AOTA!
Your father is furious.
THE OTHERS WILL NEED A MONTH TO COMPLETELY RECOVER.

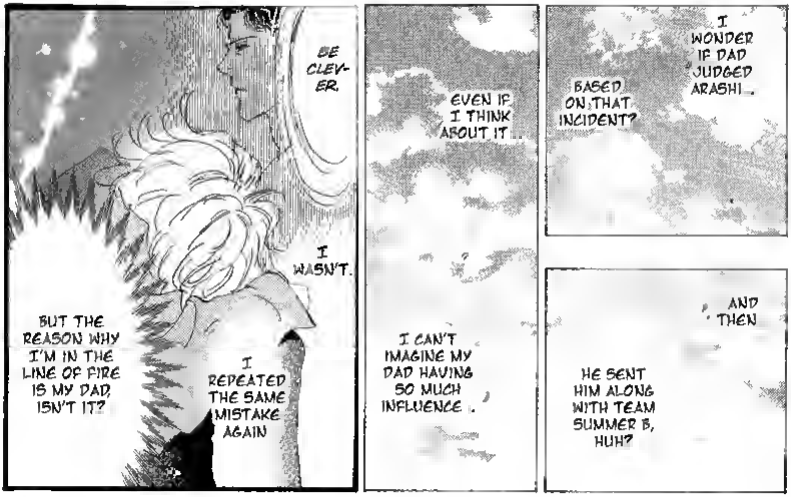
NOT TO MENTION...
SHE ISN'T TO BLAME FOR ANYTHING.
THAT HANA WAS NOTHING BUT THE VICTIM HERE.
THAT GUY WAS THE ONE WHO DREW A KNIFE.
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.

AND HANA
EITHER.
DOESN'T NEED TO FEEL RESPONSIBLE AT ALL,
EVEN IF I GET PUNISHED,
I WON'T REGRET MY ACTIONS
IT SEEMS ...
YOU SAVED MY DAUGHTER.
THANK YOU.
Her father is hard to deal with.
MOM,
ARE YOU OKAY?!
Yeah
DAD TOO?!
HANA,
And I thought that you were a good-natured fellow, but you're unexpectedly stubborn.
I'VE ALREADY DECIDED TO QUIT THE CLUB.
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!

Saying "bravo" to soon
MR. SUGURONO!
YOU MUSTN'T PRAISE HIM!
WHILE THE OTHER FOUR WERE SENT TO THE HOSPITAL.
BUT STILL...
BOTH YOU AND HANA CAME OUT OF IT OKAY,
BRAVO.
I'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE.
IT GOT OUT OF CONTROL.
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU WERE STRONG AT FIGHTING.
THERE WON'T BE ANY CONSE-QUENCES FOR THE SWIMMING CLUB, EITHER.
Fighting is taboo, though.
YOU'LL BE SUS-PENDED FROM SCHOOL FOR ONE WEEK.
THAT'S ALL.
IN REGARDS TO HIS PUNISH-MENT,
I EARNESTLY REQUEST TO KEEP IT AS INSIGNIFI-CANT...
AS POSSI-BLE.
DAD... YOU AREN'T WELL CONNECTED, NOW ARE YOU?
NO, NOT IN PARTICU-LAR.
APPARENTLY, THERE'S BEEN A FLOOD OF LETTERS REQUESTING TO NOT PUNISH YOU.
WELL, I'M REALLY GLAD ABOUT IT.
IT WAS A HEROIC DEED, AFTER ALL.
AND BOTH OF YOU ARE SERIOUS STUDENTS.
Who?
YOU, DAD?

*Aota= green paddy; Arashi = storm

WIND BLOWING THROUGH VERDURE ...?


BE CLEVER.
I WASN'T.
BUT THE REASON WHY I'M IN THE LINE OF FIRE IS MY DAD, ISN'T IT?
I REPEATED THE SAME MISTAKE AGAIN
EVEN IF I THINK ABOUT IT ...
I CAN'T IMAGINE MY DAD HAVING SO MUCH INFLUENCE ...
I WONDER IF DAD JUDGED ARASHI ...
BASED ON THAT INCIDENT?
AND THEN
HE SENT HIM ALONG WITH TEAM SUMMER B, HUH?

BUT THEY FORCED ME INTO THIS POSITION.
ARAMAKI-SAN TOLD ME TO NOT THINK ILL OF MY PARENTS.

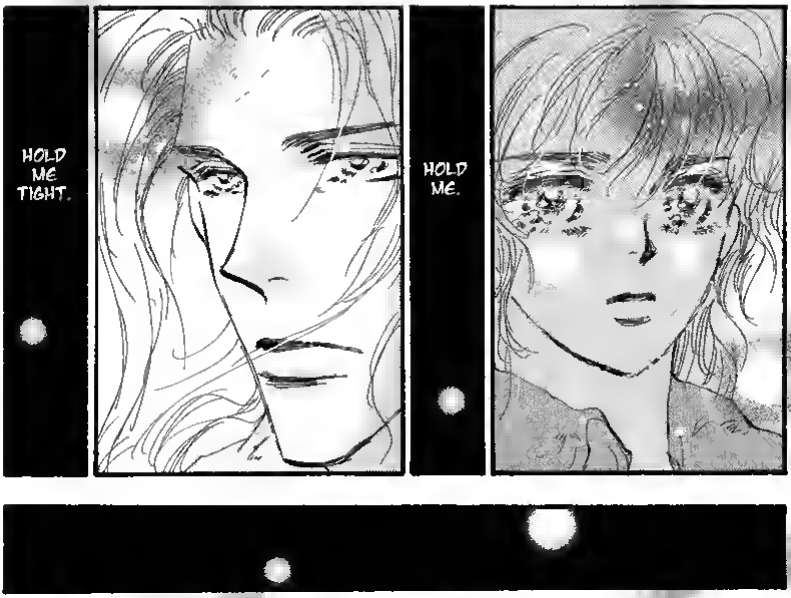
THOSE ARMS THAT WOULD HOLD ME TIGHT AREN'T HERE.
AND ARASHI ISN'T HERE.

IS SOME-THING
THE MATTER?

ARA-MAKI-SAN.

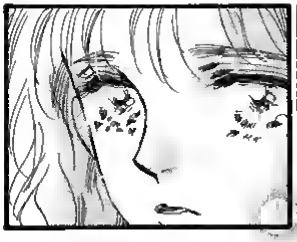
HANA-SAN?

WHAT
ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?


HOLD ME TIGHT.
HOLD ME.

AROUND ME.
WRAP...
YOUR ARMS...

DON'T GIVE INTO YOUR WEAKNESS, HANA.
STAND FIRM
I MUSTN'T ASK HIM
I SKIPPED WORK
ANGO IS SO MEAN,
AND DIGGING THAT WELL IS EXHAUSTING
SHOULD WE...
LEAVE TONIGHT, INSTEAD OF TOMORROW?
HANA-CHAN,
YOU'RE INJURED
IF ANGO FOUND OUT, HE'D STOP ME
I'LL HAVE TO STEAL AWAY.
I have to sew those buttons back on my shirt. Crap
I changed my clothes



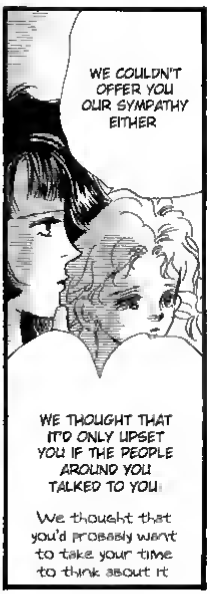
HANA-CHAN,
HAVE YOU CALMED DOWN A LITTLE?
I GUESS NOT... SORRY THAT I CAN'T BE OF ANY HELP.

DIGGING THAT WELL..
THANK YOU.
MUST BE HARD..
I lost it a bit
Dr Ban-chan shared some of his medi-cine with me.

WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO TELL YOU.
WE WANTED TO LEAVE YOU ALONE FOR A WHILE
Yeah.

IF ANY-THING,
You weren't directly in-volved...
MAD?
WE ENVY YOU.
NO, NOT AT ALL.

AREN'T ...
MAD, BECAUSE OF MY DAD?
YOU ALL..


WE COULDN'T OFFER YOU OUR SYMPATHY EITHER
WE THOUGHT THAT IT'D ONLY UPSET YOU IF THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU TALKED TO YOU.
We thought that you'd probably want to take your time to think about it

ENVY ME?
YOU...

...AH...
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S ANY HOPE THAT THEY SURVIVED...
BECAUSE NONE OF US KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED...
TO OUR PARENTS
You're so lucky.
PLUS, YOU'VE GOT A PHOTO...
NO ONE ELSE HAS ONE...
Yeah.
BUT STILL,
I THINK THAT MARK'S DIARY WAS A SHOCK FOR YOU.
WE ENVY YOU.
Its content, you see...
I WON-DER...
IF IT IS GOOD
YOU KNOW HOW YOUR PARENTS SPENT...
THAT'S GOOD
THEIR LAST DAYS.

THEY WERE HEROIC, I SHOULD SAY.
I WON-DER
WE THINK THAT IT'S GOOD.
Yeah.
PLEASE SHOW US THE PHOTO.
IF IT'S GOOD
I GUESS OUR PARENTS CAME TO A DE-CISION OUT OF DESPERATION..
AFTER THEY'D SUD-DENLY BEEN INFORMED ABOUT THE SITUATION ONE DAY.
YOU'RE THE VERY IMAGE OF YOUR MOM
HANA-CHAN, YOU HAD LONG HAIR.
You kind of look like a young lady.
IN THE FUTURE
THEY BELIEVED THAT THEIR OWN KIDS WOULD LIVE ON..
THAT MADE THEM HAPPY.
BUT YOUR PARENTS KNEW ABOUT IT AND RAISED YOU..
THAT'S VERY HEROIC
WITHOUT EVER TELLING YOU
WE DON'T KNOW WHICH OF OUR PARENTS WERE HAPPY THOUGH.
IT'S SIMILAR TO HOW PRINCESS KAGUYA WAS RAISED, I GUESS
THEY WERE ALL HAPPY.

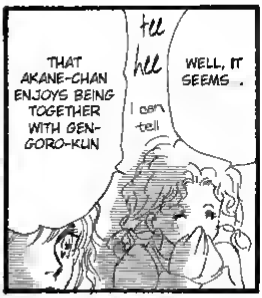
YEAH,
I ALSO WISH...
THAT MY BABY...
WILL LIVE A VERY LONG LIFE.

YOU SHOULD IGNORE THOSE GUYS FROM TEAM SUMMER A.
We're all in the same boat
WITH THAT BEING SAID, CHEER UP.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT RAN'S GRUDGE.
I THINK THAT SHE'S FOND OF YOU, YOU KNOW?

ALL RIGHT, FOLKS, BREAK IS OVER.
IF WE DON'T WORK, THEY'LL ROAR AT US.
top top
All right
LET'S GET BACK TO DIGGING.

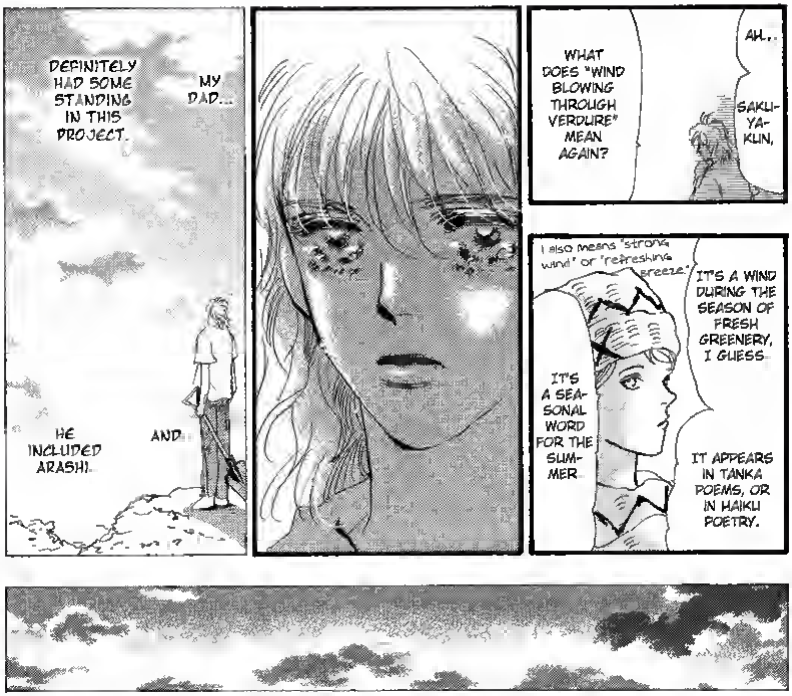
AKANE-SAN, I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD HELP ME REPLENISH OUR SUPPLIES AGAIN.
Sorry for disturbing you
SURE


WELL, IT SEEMS .
tll hll
I can tell
THAT AKANE-CHAN ENJOYS BEING TOGETHER WITH GEN-GORO-KUN

AND PARTED FROM TEAM SUMMER A
ACTUALLY, IT'D BE BETTER IF ALL OF US LEFT THIS PLACE...
TO GIVE BIRTH TO HER BABY HERE...
BUT, IT'S SAFER FOR KURUMI-SAN...
I WANT...
TO PROTECT THESE PEOPLE.
THAT ANGO WON'T ATTACK THE OTHERS?
CAN I DEFINITELY SAY...
14
I WANT TO PRO-TECT...
THESE GUYS.

PROTECT KURUMI-SAN...
PROPERLY, OKAY?
OH,
You found me
I WAS JUST SKIPPING OUT FROM WORK FOR A BIT
RYU-SEI-SAN,
RYUSEI-SAN
I REMEMBER
A HORRIBLE MOVIE THAT I WATCHED LONG AGO.
IT WAS ABOUT THE EXTINCTION OF THE HUMAN RACE.
ONLY AT THE SOUTH POLE, A FEW HUNDRED PEOPLE HAD SURVIVED
AMONG THEM WERE ONLY A HANDFUL OF WOMEN
THOSE WOMEN WERE FORBIDDEN TO HAVE RELATION-SHIPS
THEY WERE FORCED TO ENTERTAIN ALL THE MEN IN TURN,
AND TO KEEP ON GIVING BIRTH TO CHILDREN TO WHOM THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHO THE FA-THER WAS
THEY WERE BIRTH MACHINES THAT HAD TO SATISFY THE LUST OF MEN
I COULD NEVER ALLOW THAT TO HAP-PEN.

I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE
With these guys from team summer A
ALWAYS WATCH OVER HER,
As a woman you shouldn't talk about something like this
It's important that's why
WHA...
DOES SOMEONE MEAN TO DO SOMETHING TO HER?!
I DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS,
BUT KURUMI-SAN IS THE ONLY ONE...
WHO CAN HAVE SEX RIGHT NOW WITHOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT GETTING PREGNANT...
What a touchy topic!
PROPERLY, YOU HEAR ME!
AND PROTECT HER...
Oh.
HOW RELIABLE.
I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN IZAYOI-SAN.
Also the food and stuff
I'M WATCHING HIM.
I'M SECRETLY LOOKING OUT FOR HIM, AS WELL.
The women ? Ran-san too?
KEEP AN EYE ON ANGO...
AND PROTECT THE WOMEN, PLEASE.
KURUMI!
Hey
KARITA-SAN.


DEFINITELY HAD SOME STANDING IN THIS PROJECT.
MY DAD...
HE INCLUDED ARASHI.
AND...
WHAT DOES "WIND BLOWING THROUGH VERDURE" MEAN AGAIN?
AH...
SAKU-YA-KUN,
I also means "strong wind" or "refreshing breeze."
IT'S A WIND DURING THE SEASON OF FRESH GREENERY, I GUESS.
IT'S A SEASONAL WORD FOR THE SUMMER.
IT APPEARS IN TANKA POEMS, OR IN HAIKU POETRY.

IT'S NICE AND COOL, THIS CAVERN, ISN'T IT?
It's eerie... but I don't have an ominous feeling about it.
IT'S PERFECT FOR PRESERVING.
SHOULD I PUT THE SMOKED FOODS BACK HERE?
AKANE-SAN, THE BARRELS WITH CURED FOOD GO OVER HERE.

I WONDER WHAT THOSE BATS EAT NOW.
They could have made all the other animals disappear right?
THERE ARE LEAVINGS OF A MEAL IN IT, AS WELL...
GATHER THE EXCREMENT. WE USE IT AS FUEL.
As fertilizer too.
OKAY.
Gah!
IT'S STILL FRESH.
THERE'S BAT EXCREMENT HERE.
I THINK THAT THEY'RE STILL AROUND.
YEAH, There is some, once in a while.
We'll have to burn some firewood.
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE BACK THERE?
GEN-GORO-KUN,
THAT THERE'S WATER DOWN THERE.
I WONDER IF THIS MEANS...
You're right.
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.
THESE ARE PIECES THAT SEEM TO BE FROM AQUATIC ANIMALS THAT HAVE LOST THEIR PIGMENTATION
THE CAVERN KEEPS GOING ON IN ALL DIRECTIONS.
THERE'S A DEEP PRECIPICE THERE, TOO, SO IT'S DANGEROUS.

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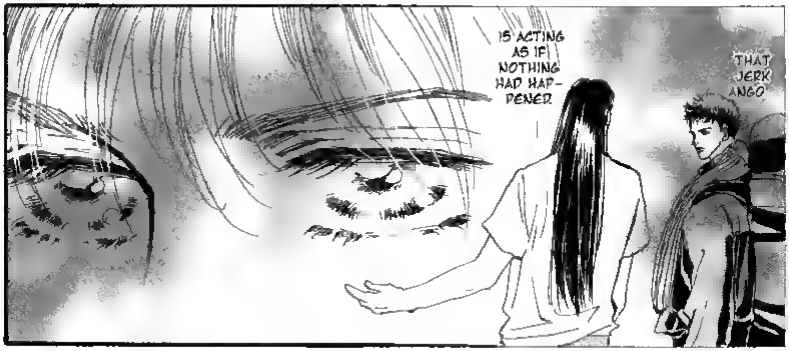
Summer Solstice Chapter 18
【— Love —】
THE PRECIPICE IS BACK THERE.
BE CAREFUL.

HE!
YOU TURNED IT INTO A NEAT STORAGE AREA.
WE'LL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO MAKE EVEN MORE USE OF THE AREAS UNDER-GROUND
THIS CAV-ERN HAS NUMEROUS OPENINGS TO THE SURFACE.
BUT IN-SIDE, IT'S PRETTY DEEP.
Trudge
Trudge
Watch your step
Trudge
IT SEEMS TO BE SHAPED LIKE A LABYRINTH.

Trudge
trudge
THERE ARE THOSE BATS, OF COURSE
AND THERE ARE TRACES OF ANIMALS THAT LIVE HERE
Trudge
Trudge
Trudge

WE WERE WONDERING IF THERE MIGHT BE WATER DEEPER UNDERGROUND.
Trudge
Trudge
Trudge


IS ACTING AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED
THAT JERK ANGO

BECAUSE I'M NOT FROM SUMMER A
BUT I WON'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
I'M GOING TO LEAVE THIS PLACE SOON

HE COULDN'T EVEN COMPLAIN...
IF I STABBED HIM FROM BEHIND RIGHT NOW

BUT I WON'T FORGET.
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HIM AS LONG AS I LIVE.

HERE IS THE PRECIPICE.
SO IT'D BE DIFFICULT TO ENTER FROM THERE
YEAH, BUT THERE ARE CLIFFS UP THERE,
IT'S OPEN UPWARDS.
OH,

I'LL HELP WITH THIS SEARCH FOR WATER,
FOR THE SAKE OF THE PEOPLE FROM TEAM AUTUMN.

AFTER THAT, I'LL STEAL AWAY...
AND NEVER SEE TEAM SUMMER A AGAIN.

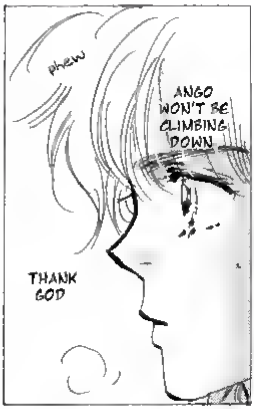
HANA-SAN—

tok
tok
tok
THE BEDROCK IS SOLID
THERE ARE NO SIGNS THAT IT CRUMBLED LATELY...
ALL THE RAIN THAT COMES IN HERE...
STREAMS DOWNWARDS, HUH?
IT MIGHT BE EVEN DEEPER
IT'S ABOUT SEVENTEEN OR EIGHTEEN METERS DEEP, I'D GUESS.
GET READY, HANA.
ALL RIGHT, LET'S TRY TO CLIMB DOWN.
DEPENDING ON THE SITUATION...
WE COULD END UP STAYING DOWN THERE ALL NIGHT.

ANGO,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CLIMB DOWN.
P2+
...RYO,
DON'T READ TOO MUCH INTO THINGS...
I CAN DO IT WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS TOO.
I KNOW
BUT...
LEAVE IT TO ME THIS TIME.

THANK YOU
They're things that were in the storage area. The oil is my own making.
I'LL LEND YOU A HARNESS AND AN OIL LAMP
BUT IF THERE'S A WOMAN COMING AS WELL IT MIGHT BE SAFE
RYO IS EERIE TOO,

I COULDN'T STAND IT IF HE ATTACKED ME IN A DARK AND NARROW PLACE
LET'S CLIMB DOWN BY THREES
I'LL GO TOO


phew
ANGO WON'T BE CLIMBING DOWN
THANK GOD

I FORGOT THAT I WANTED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING
AH,
THAT'S RIGHT NIJIKO-SAN,

WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT A "DEATH" CHARACTER?

I ONLY HEARD THE TEACHERS TALK ABOUT IT,
AND HOW THEY SAID THAT THEY HAD TO PUT "DEATH" IN SOMEWHERE

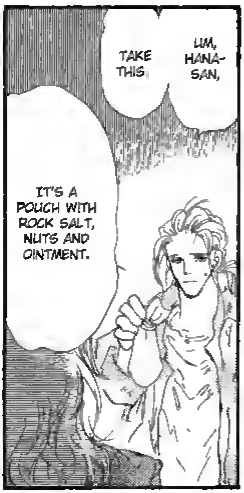
WHY NOW?
I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY

10K
fisherman
LET'S DRIVE IN THREE SPIKES AS ANCHORS
Just like
Tok
Tok
Tok
LET'S USE THIS ROCK
Darn
WE
WILL HAVE TO LEAVE IT
TO THEM, HUH?

...MY...
GUESS IS...
THAT HE'S PROBABLY RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING US.
FOR INSTANCE, TO DO AWAY WITH INCOMPATIBLE PEOPLE ..
OR TO FORCE THE OTHERS WITH HIM TO DIE IF THE ENVIRONMENT WAS HOPELESS
FOR PEOPLE TO SURVIVE,
OR SOMETHING?
YOU COULD INTERPRET IT LIKE THIS, HUH?
HE ISN'T IN OUR TEAM,
OR HE'D HAVE ANNIHILATED US LONG AGO.
I'M SURE HE'S WITH TEAM SUMMER B.
PERHAPS... THAT MAN.
DEATH?!
BE IN TEAM SUMMER B, TOGETHER WITH ARASHI?
COULD HE...

OKAY
Man
Don't order me around
COME
THIS A AND B STUFF IS ANNOYING
ALL RIGHT, I'LL GO ON AHEAD
Toss
WE'RE TEAM SUMMER, AREN'T WE?
FOLLOW WHEN I TELL YOU TO, HANA
ARAMAKI-SAN...
WITH ME
NOTICED THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG...
HANA-SAN,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO IF YOU DON'T WANT TO...
HE'S...
WATCHING ME PROPERLY
I'LL BE GOING NOW
I MUSTN'T CAUSE HIM TO WORRY
I'M FINE.
ARE YOU OKAY?

IT'S AN LED LIGHT THAT CAN BE CHARGED WITH A HAND WHEEL.
I SWIPED IT FROM THE RYUGU SHELTER.
catch
HANA,
Yess
I'LL LEND YOU THIS.
TAKE IT WITH YOU.
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN UNDERGROUND.
WE KNOW THAT FROM EXPERIENCE ...RIGHT?
IT WASN'T IN YOUR PARENT'S ROOM, THOUGH.
SURPRISINGLY, IT STILL WORKS
RAN-SAN
...
WELL, EVEN IF SOMETHING HAPPENS,
YOU HAVE TO TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS, OKAY?
LIKE THE OTHER DAY

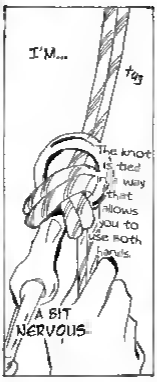

TAKE THIS.
UM, HANA-SAN,
IT'S A POUCH WITH ROCK SALT, NUTS AND OINTMENT.

"

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

HANA!
GET DOWN HERE!
PFFT
ARIMAKI-SAN...
Thanks a lot

IT'S FRIGHT-ENING
BEING UNDER-GROUND IS SCARY.
BUT...


I'M...
tug
The knot is tied in a way that allows you to use both hands.
A BIT NERVOUS.

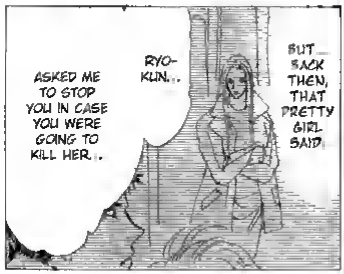
I told you not to order me around!
ROGER!
WHAT'S LED?

THERE'S A PATH THAT LEADS DOWN DIAGO-NALLY.
LET'S GET GOING.

SEE YOU LATER.
I'VE CHEERED UP NOW.
I'M GOING TO FIND WATER.

I'LL BE FINE ON MY OWN.
I'LL CHECK OUT THIS TUNNEL
MY VOTE IS THAT WE COULD BE "DEATH",
TOO.
AND PREPARE DINNER?
They might come back sooner than expected
OKAY.
ALL THREE OF THEM GOT DOWN OKAY.
THERE'S STILL A LITTLE TIME UNTIL SUNSET.
SO, SHOULD WE MAKE A FIRE HERE

RYO IS INSCRUTABLE,


ASKED ME TO STOP YOU IN CASE YOU WERE GOING TO KILL HER...
RYO-KUN...
BUT BACK THEN, THAT PRETTY GIRL SAID

THAT HE WANTED TO HINDER ANGO, IF ONLY A LITTLE.
THIS MEANS...

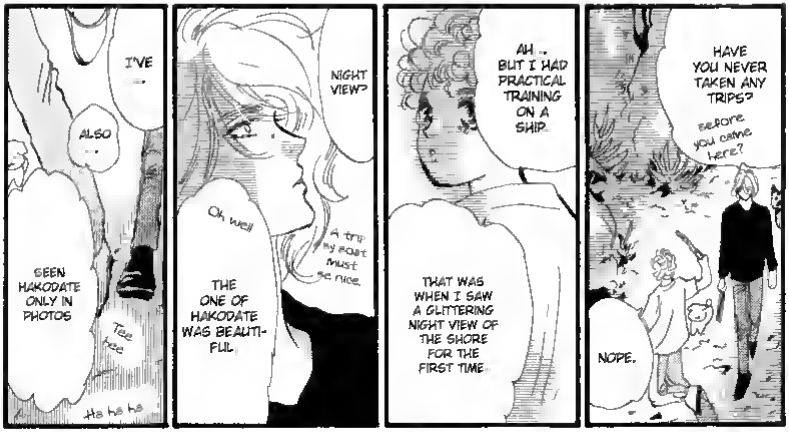
THERE ARE SIGNS THAT IT'S BEEN WASHED OUT.
WATER RUNS HERE...
There's no exit.
DURING THE RAINY SEASON.

HANA.
SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT TAKASHI-SENSEI?

I'M
MORE WORRIED ABOUT ANGO SUDDELY SHOWING UP HERE...
THAN ABOUT RYO

tweet
toot
hoot
tweet
toot
hoot
hoot tweet hoot tweet
hoot hoot toot
toot hoot tweet toot
DON'T SCRUNCH UP YOUR FACE
clink
clink
clink
RELAX
AND LET THE AIR CARRY THE SOUNDS
tweet toot hoot tuut
clink
YEAH, RIGHT, THAT'S GOOD.
clink
clink
DON'T STRAIN YOUR SHOULDERS.
hoot
toot
tweet
THAT'S RARE TOO
I'VE ALSO ONLY SEEN TULIPS IN PHOTOS
That's because I never had musical lessons
SO, SHOULD WE GO SEE THEM NEXT TIME?
PEOPLE WHO'VE NEVER PLAYED ANY ARE RARE,
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS ARE FUN
USUALLY CASTANETS, THE HARMONICA, OR THE FLUTE
I DID IT!
hoot
YES!
THE "TULIP" IS COMPLETED.

*Huis Ten Bosch: Theme park bearing the same name as one of the three official residences of the Dutch Royal Family with a replica of the palaces in Sasebo, Japan.


I'VE
ALSO
SEEN HAKODATE ONLY IN PHOTOS
Tee hee
Ha ha ha
NIGHT VIEW?
Oh, well
A trip to Hokkaido must be nice.
THE ONE OF HAKODATE WAS BEAUTIFUL.
AH... BUT I HAD PRACTICAL TRAINING ON A SHIP.
THAT WAS WHEN I SAW A GLITTERING NIGHT VIEW OF THE SHORE FOR THE FIRST TIME.
HAVE YOU NEVER TAKEN ANY TRIPS?
Before you came here?
NOPE.

I'M GOING TO LEAVE WITH HANA AND THE OTHERS.
KORIRI,
YOU SEE,

WE WANT TO SEARCH FOR THE OTHER MEMBERS OF TEAM SPRING TOO.
WHEN?
BE-CAUSE NEITHER HANA
NOR I SEEM TO BE GETTING ALONG WITH ANGO OR THE REST.
WELL
DON'T TELL ANGO OR THE OTHERS
TONIGHT.
HUH?
WANT TO FLY WITH ME?
WHAT?
SHOULD WE FLY?

I'VE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE.
DON'T WORRY,
IT'S LIKE PLAYING MUSIC
COME ON,
START RUNNING
IT'S
HARD TO SAY IF MY REFLEXES ARE GOOD ENOUGH FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS
THAT DOESN'T MATTER
PUT THIS ON
NO
HEY!
LOOK! THE SUN IS SETTING
THAT'S OKAY
SFX WHOOSH
RELAX...
DON'T STRAIN YOUR SHOULDERS,
AND DON'T SCRUNCH UP YOUR FACE
Shhh
AND LET THE AIR CARRY YOU
WHOA!
AH...
Okay

SFX. WHOOSH
LISTEN,
YOU ALSO MUSTN'T SUDDENLY MAKE ANY WEIRD MOVES,
sssssssh
AND DON'T JUST SHIFT YOUR BALANCE.
SEE?
IT'S LIKE PLAYING MUSIC
flutter
flutter

THE SUN IS SETTING.
Whoooosh
THAT'S OKAY.
DON'T WORRY.
IT'S PITCH-DARK.
THE MOON ISN'T SHINING EITHER.
YEAH,
IT'S GLITTER-ING.
The wind is making my eyes water
THAT THIS IS HAKO-DATE
SHOULD WE IMAGINE IT?
LET'S JUST PRETEND
IN THE PAST...
WE'D PROBABLY HAVE SEEN A GLITTERING NIGHT VIEW
THAT'S TOO BAD.

IT'S A MILLION-DOLLAR VIEW.

TAKASHI-SENSEI SHOWED UP...
WHEN WE WERE THIRTEEN.
THEY MADE SPECIALIZED CLASSES.
HE WAS ONE OF THE TEACHERS
TAKASHI-SENSEI TOOK OVER THE FIRE CLASS.
HE TAUGHT MARTIAL ARTS...
AND HOW TO HANDLE A KNIFE
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
MOUNTAIN CLIMBING TOO.
I'M STILL NOT CONVINCED ABOUT THAT MARTIAL ARTS STUFF
NO MATTER WHAT THEY SAY.
HE'D OFTEN ASSAULT US, OUT OF THE BLUE.
IT WAS TO TEST HOW WE'D DEAL WITH IT.
ANGO WAS OFTEN ATTACKED TOO.
I CAN'T IMAGINE MY FATHER LIKE THAT AT ALL.
HE WAS PRETTY COOL, REFINED IN HIS MANNERISMS,
AND HE HAD A PLEASANT VOICE.
I DIDN'T HATE HIM.

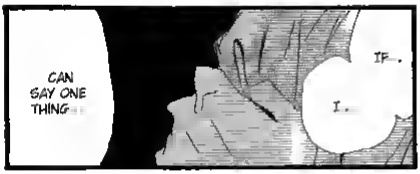
THE LIGHT
DOESN'T REACH THE GROUND
WHAT DO WE DO? GO BACK?
RYO,
THIS IS A DEAD END
IT DROPS AWAY INTO A PRECIPICE.
HANA,
THIS TIME YOU GO AHEAD
CAN YOU DO IT?
NO, LET'S TRY TO CLIMB DOWN AND HAVE A LOOK AROUND.
6
I WONDER IF HANA AND THE OTHERS
ARE ALL RIGHT
SNIFF SNIFF
AH,
crackle
Crackle
THE EMBERS HAVE THE RIGHT COLOUR
WELL THEN, LET'S BOIL THE STEW
YES, I CAN.

Woof
Woof
steam
bubb
whine
Woof
whine
YES, YES, WHAT?
It smells nice.
YOU JUST HAD SOMETHING TO EAT DIDN'T YOU?
whine
SHE DOES THINGS AT HER OWN PACE...
ANGO-KUN ALSO WENT OFF AND NEVER CAME BACK...
RAN-SAN WENT BACK TOO
Haru blew away

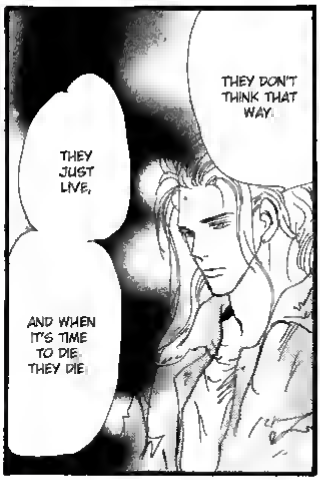
HAVE YOU EVER...
KILLED ONE OF YOUR DOGS?
crackle
crackle

HE'D CONTRACTED RABIES
I WANTED TO PUT HIM OUT OF HIS MISERY
I...
EVER SINCE I WAS LITTLE...
KILLED A TIGER THAT I HAD BEEN RAISING...
HE WAS BREATHING FEEBLY,
AND BLOODY FOAM WAS RUNNING OUT OF HIS WOUNDS...
THAT'S WHY I DEALT HIM A DEATH BLOW.
HE WAS BADLY INJURED,
AND I COULDN'T HELP HIM ANYMORE...
FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
YES, I HAVE.
DO YOU THINK THAT THAT DOG WISHED FOR IT?
DO YOU REGRET IT?

DON'T YOU THINK THAT HE WANTED TO LIVE UNTIL HIS LAST BREATH?
OR THAT YOU SHOULD HAVE LEFT HIM ALONE UNTIL HIS NATURAL DEATH?
DID I HAVE THE RIGHT TO KILL HIM?
I WONDER IF HE WANTED IT?
I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT...
TO LIKE ANIMALS.
I DON'T KNOW...
WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE RIGHT THING TO DO
BACK THEN I THOUGHT...
THAT THERE WASN'T ANY OTHER WAY.
BUT WHAT ABOUT HIM?
WAS HE JUST BEING KILLED?


IF..
I..
CAN SAY ONE THING..

THEN
THAT TIGER DOESN'T RESENT YOU..


THEY DON'T THINK THAT WAY.
THEY JUST LIVE,
AND WHEN IT'S TIME TO DIE THEY DIE.

NOR IS HE GRATEFUL TO YOU.

AND THEY AREN'T HAPPY OR ANGRY BECAUSE THEY WERE KILLED BY YOU.
IF SOMEONE KILLS THEM,
THEY DON'T THINK THAT IT HAS TO BE YOU.
IF THEY'RE IN PAIN LIKE THAT.
THEY DON'T WISH TO DIE..

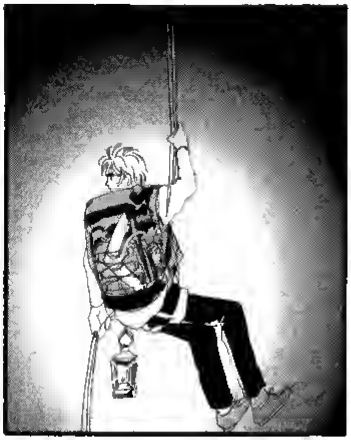
THAT'S WHY.
WE DON'T KNOW, GENGORO-KUN
WE CAN ONLY JUDGE IT BY OUR OWN FEELINGS
WE DON'T KNOW.
WHAT THEY WISH FOR.
BY OUR...
OWN FEELINGS...?
BY HOW MUCH WE LOVE THEM.
YEAH,

TOO LAZY
BUT IF YOU WERE...
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO BE SORRY
THAT'S WHY
AND THEN YOU DID IT WITH YOUR OWN HANDS, I SUPPOSE...
THAT IT WAS THE ONLY THING THAT YOU COULD DO, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU THOUGHT
YOU SHOULD REGRET IT FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE
OR SOME-THING
OR YOU DID IT EVEN THOUGH THERE WAS ANOTHER WAY, BECAUSE IT WAS INCONVENIENT...
AND DID IT TO MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR YOU
AND THEN YOU DID IT WITH YOUR OWN HANDS.
DECIDED IN YOUR HEART THAT IT WAS YOUR ONLY OPTION.
YOU DID EVERY-THING IN YOUR POWER.
YOU WERE AGONIZING OVER IT.
BUT I BET ...

WE CAN'T HELP...
BUT THINK SO SERIOUSLY ABOUT THINGS,
NEVER LOOK AWAY FROM ANYTHING...
AND FACE MATTERS SO EARNESTLY...
EVEN IF IT'S SOMEONE ELSE'S EGO
WE CAN ONLY JUDGE THE OUTCOME...
BY OUR OWN FEELINGS
THAT TIGER...
DOESN'T RESENT YOU...
NOR IS HE THANKFUL TO YOU.

THIS ...
IS ONLY MY OPINION,
BUT I THINK THIS IS SO.
TIGERS ...
ARE DIFFERENT FROM DOGS,
BUT THEY'RE ANIMALS THAT DON'T SHOW THEIR WEAKNESS AND HOLE UP...
WHEN THEY FEEL THAT THEY'RE GOING TO DIE
BUT ...
I'M SURE THAT THAT TIGER..!
WAS HAPPY TO SEE YOU! AT THE END...
IF ONLY A LITTLE.
I'M SURE
HE WAS

KORURI
WE SHOULD HEAD BACK NOW.
OR THE OTHERS WILL BE WORRIED AGAIN.
WOULD YOU COME ALONG?
WOULD YOU...
COME WITH US?
AH,
A SHOOT-ING STAR.
A METEOR CAN BE LOVELY TOO.



HANA,
WHAT'S IT LIKE DOWN THERE?

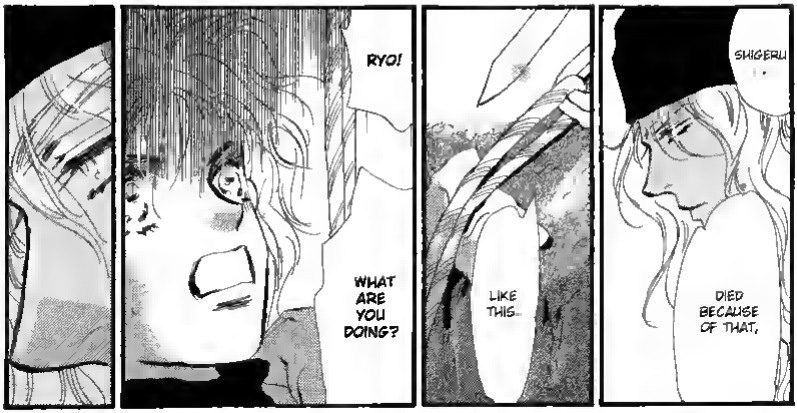
I SEE.

IT'S A STEEP FACE.
THERE ISN'T ANY-THING.

THE ROPE IS TOO SHORT.
YOU CAN'T SEE THE GROUND.

OR A TUNNEL?
IS THERE A LEDGE WHERE YOU COULD JUMP ON ...

I WAS TOLD THAT IT WAS MY FINAL EXAMINATION
WHEN I WAS ATTACKED ONBOARD A SCRAPPED VESSEL.
RYO?
RYO?!
I BARELY ESCAPED WITH MY LIFE
IT WAS A FIGHT ABOUT VICTORY OR DEFEAT
I STILL BEAR THE SCARS TO THIS DAY.
TAKASHI-SENSEI TOLD ME TO KILL HIM,
OR HE'D COME AFTER ME AGAIN.
BUT I COULDN'T DO IT,
DURING SHOOTING PRACTICE WITHOUT BATTING AN EYE.
AND SHOT HUMAN-SHAPED TARGETS
EVEN THOUGH I WAS AN EXCELLENT STUDENT...


RYO!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
LIKE THIS...
SHIGERU
DIED BECAUSE OF THAT,

AND THAT I SHOULDN'T MAKE SUCH A MISTAKE AGAIN IF I WENT INTO THE FUTURE.
THAT I SHOULD HAVE KILLED HIM,
TAKASHI-SENSEI TOLD ME

I'M SORRY,
BUT COULD YOU DIE, HANA?
I WON'T MAKE SUCH A MISTAKE AGAIN

THAT'S RIGHT
chop
chop
I WON'T ALLOW ANGO TO KILL ANY MORE PEOPLE.
YOU ...
TRIED TO PREVENT ANGO ...
FROM KILLING ME, DIDN'T YOU?
AS LONG AS YOU'RE AROUND,
ANGO'S MENTAL STATE WILL BECOME WORSE
YOU'RE IN THE WAY.
HE COULDN'T COPE WITH IT.
I WON'T LET ANGO ...
chop
chop
KILL YOU OR HARU, EITHER.
IT'S MY DUTY.
BUT ...
I DON'T CARE

I WON'T
LET ANGO DO IT
RYO!
SO IT WAS YOU ...
WHO TRIED TO KILL HARU?!
HARU ...?!
DON'T YOU..
HURT HIM ANY-MORE.

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Summer Solstice Chapter 19

【— Fall —】

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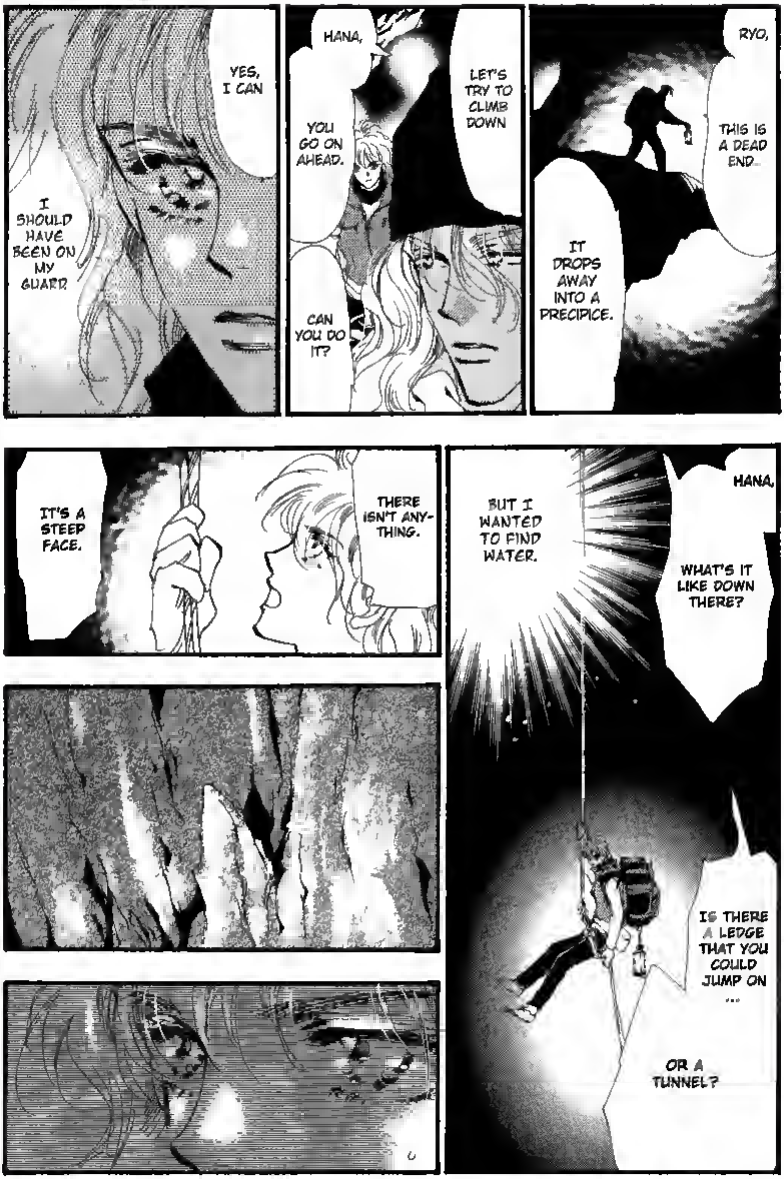
BUT HE KEEPS A STRAIGHT FACE.
MAYBE THAT'S A FRONT.
BUT SOMETIMES, HE'D SUDDENLY TURN ON SOMEONE
HE ISN'T AS SHORT-TEMPERED AS ANGO,
BUT RYO IS A LITTLE WEIRD
ANGO IS EASY TO FIGURE OUT IN A WAY
I SHOULD...
HAVE BEEN ALERTED WHEN HE BROUGHT THIS UP
HANA,
SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT TAKASHI-SENSEI?
THAT'S WHY...

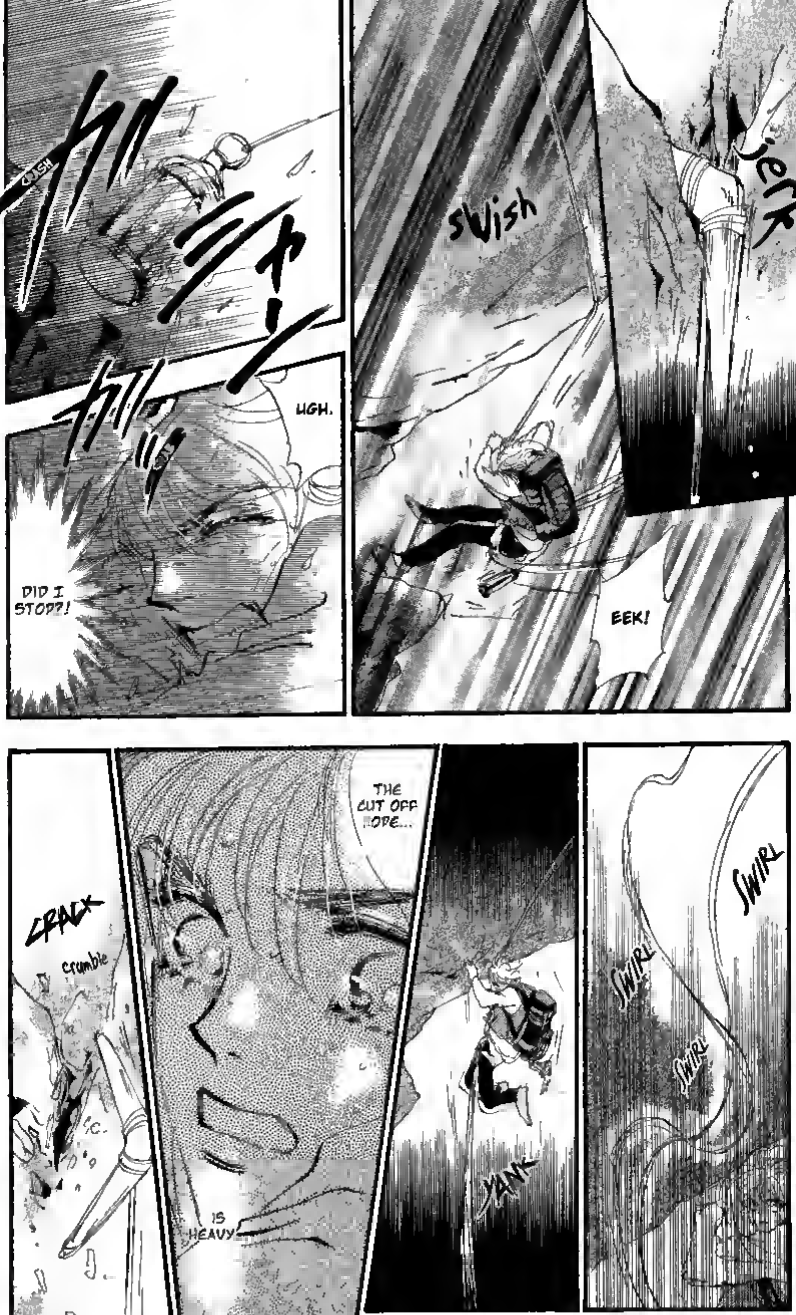

I SHOULD HAVE BEEN ON MY GUARD
YES, I CAN
HANA,
YOU GO ON AHEAD.
CAN YOU DO IT?
LET'S TRY TO CLIMB DOWN
RYO,
THIS IS A DEAD END...
IT DROPS AWAY INTO A PRECIPICE.
IT'S A STEEP FACE.
THERE ISN'T ANY-THING.
BUT I WANTED TO FIND WATER.
HANA,
WHAT'S IT LIKE DOWN THERE?
IS THERE A LEDGE THAT YOU COULD JUMP ON ...
OR A TUNNEL?

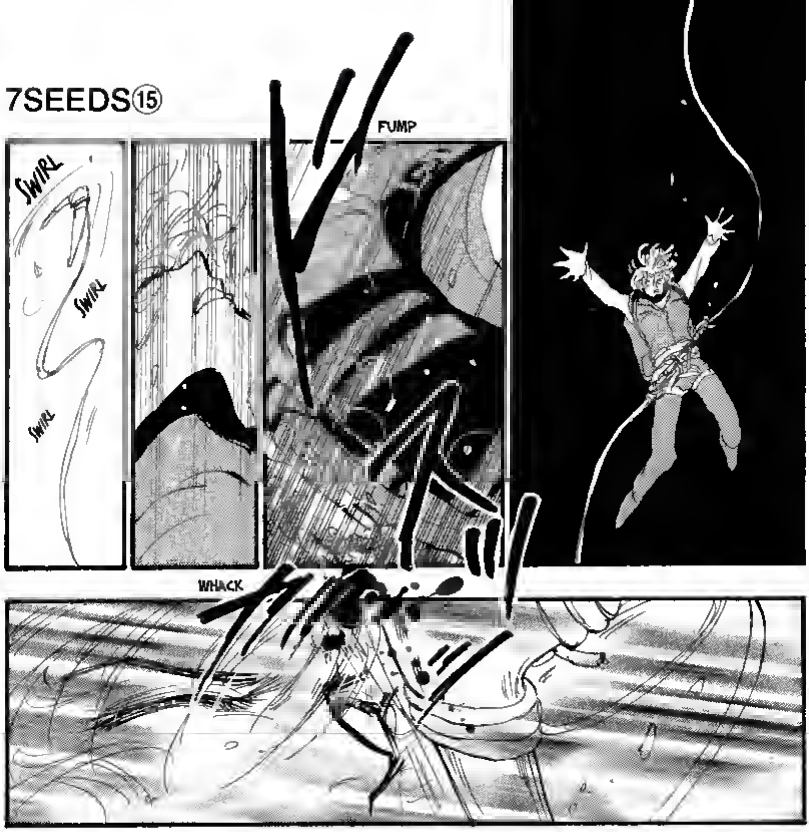
WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S A KNIFE?!
DON'T TELL ME..
I SEE
I'M SORRY,
DOES HE INTEND TO CUT THE ROPE?!
BUT COULD YOU DIE, HANA?
I WON'T ALLOW ANGO TO KILL ANY MORE PEOPLE
PREVENTED ANGO FROM KILLING ME, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU..
TUG
AS LONG AS YOU'RE AROUND,
ANGO'S MENTAL STATE WILL BECOME WORSE

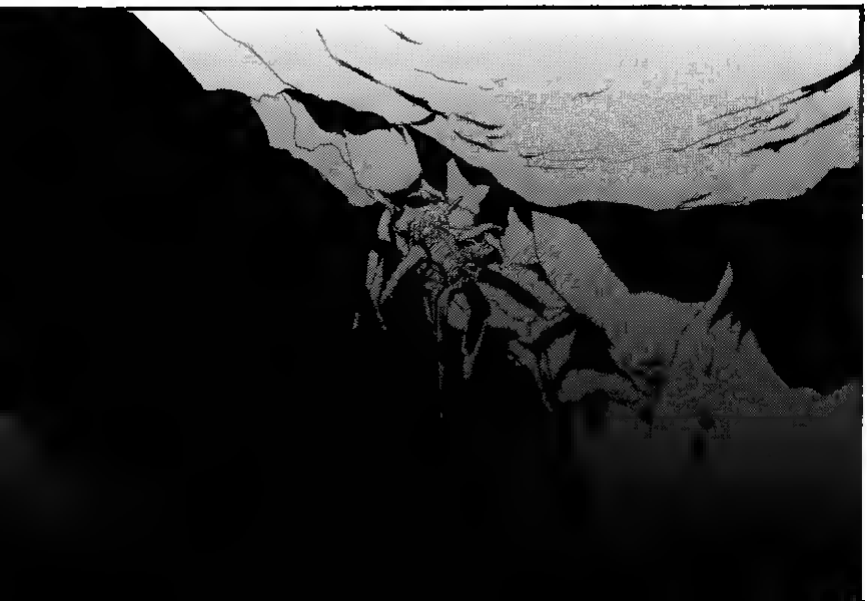
swing
swing
swing
swing
HE COULDN'T COPE WITH IT.
BUT I DON'T CARE.
IT'S MY DUTY.
swing
I WON'T LET ANGO ..
KILL YOU, OR HARU EITHER.
SO IT WAS YOU...
WHO TRIED TO KILL HARU?!
RYO!
I WON'T LET ANGO DO IT.

DON'T YOU...
Uh
HURT ANGO...
WHOOSH
ANYMORE.

SWISH
AH!
UH.
WHACK
NAH
WHIZZ
SWIT
SWIT


CUSH
UGH.
DID I STOP?
swish
jerk
EEK!
THE CUT OFF HOPE...
IS HEAVY
CRACK
crumble
SWIRL
SWIRL
SWIRL
YANK


SWIRL
SWIRL
SWIRL
FUMP
WHACK



IF WE DON'T AT LEAST MAKE AN ATTEMPT TO RESCUE HER,
HER FRIENDS WON'T BE CONVINCED, WILL THEY?
I'LL CLIMB DOWN ALONG THE ROCK FACE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
tok tok
clank clank
LEND ME YOUR ROPE
YOU AREN'T "DEATH," ARE YOU,
RYO?
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S SO GOOD TO KILL PEOPLE SO CARELESSLY...
IF SHE GOT CAUGHT SOMEWHERE...
RIGHT?
THIS MEANS,
YOU'LL HAVE TO FINISH HER OFF...
clank
clank
crumble
crumble
IT'S PRETTY CRUMBLY.
YOU CAN'T DRIVE IN PITONS HERE.
crumble
crumble

DID..
HANA TRY SOME-THING?
THE ROPE WAS SWINGING.
THIS IS A NEW CRACK.
IT SHOWS SIGNS THAT IT BROKE OFF THROUGH INCREASED STRAIN..
ACTUAL-LY...
I...
DON'T HATE THAT PART OF HER.
Hmph.
THE LIGHT DOESN'T REACH VERY FAR.
I CAN'T CLIMB DOWN ANY FURTHER.
AND I DIDN'T SEE HANA, EITHER.
MAYBE SHE FELL DOWN TO THE GROUND.
RYO.
BUT...
SHE FELL IN THE END, HUH...?

I WONDER IF I'M DEAD

IT'S PITCH-DARK...

sting

Crumble

Crumble

Crumble

Hee

UH.

sting

sting

sting

sting

MY NECK HURTS ...

MY HEAD ACHES ...

I'M ALIVE!!

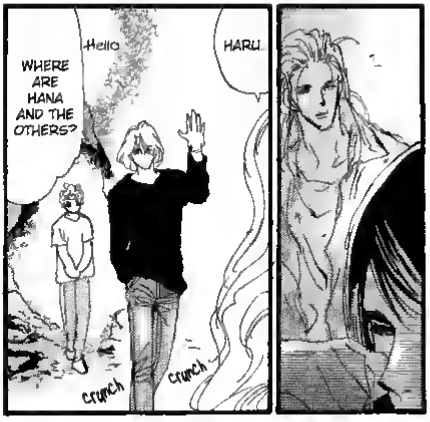
AND MY BACK, TOO...

MY LEGS ACHE...

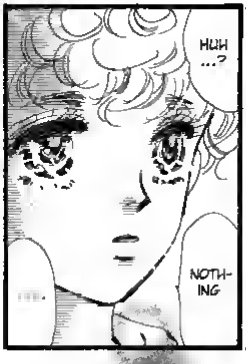
tik
tik
LIGHT
...
I NEED
LIGHT...
UH...
WAH!
WHA...
WHOA!
CARE-
FUL!
crumble
crumble
crumble

I'M STILL ALIVE.
HUFF
HUFF
I'M SAFE FOR NOW.
I SUR-VIVED
HUFF
HUFF
UH!
STEADY, GIRL.
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
CALM DOWN.
GET A GRIP
HEH
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
THAT'S FAR
AND THEN THEY MIGHT COME AFTER ME TO KILL ME.
IF THEY SEE A LIGHT, THEY'LL KNOW THAT I'M OKAY,
I WONDER IF RYO AND NIJIKO...
ARE STILL UP THERE.
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CLIMB-ING...
BACK UP HERE SEEMS TO BE IMPOSSIB-LE.

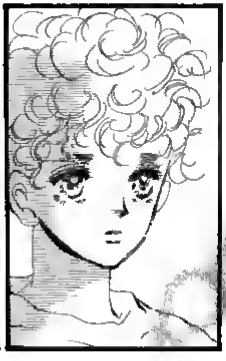
BUT I HAVE THE LIGHT...
THAT RAN-SAN GAVE ME.
THE FLASH-LIGHT IS GROWING DIM
THE BATTERY WON'T HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER
I CAN ONLY GO THROUGH THIS DEVICE.
I've relieved the rope
I WONDER IF IT LEADS SOMEWHERE
Haa
DID RYO MEAN...
WHAT
Huff
Huff
DON'T COL-LAPSE
Haa Haa
STAY IN SHAPE.
"DON'T YOU HURT ANGO ANYMORE?!"
IT'S ME WHO'S GETTING HURT, ISN'T IT?!
DAMN IT!

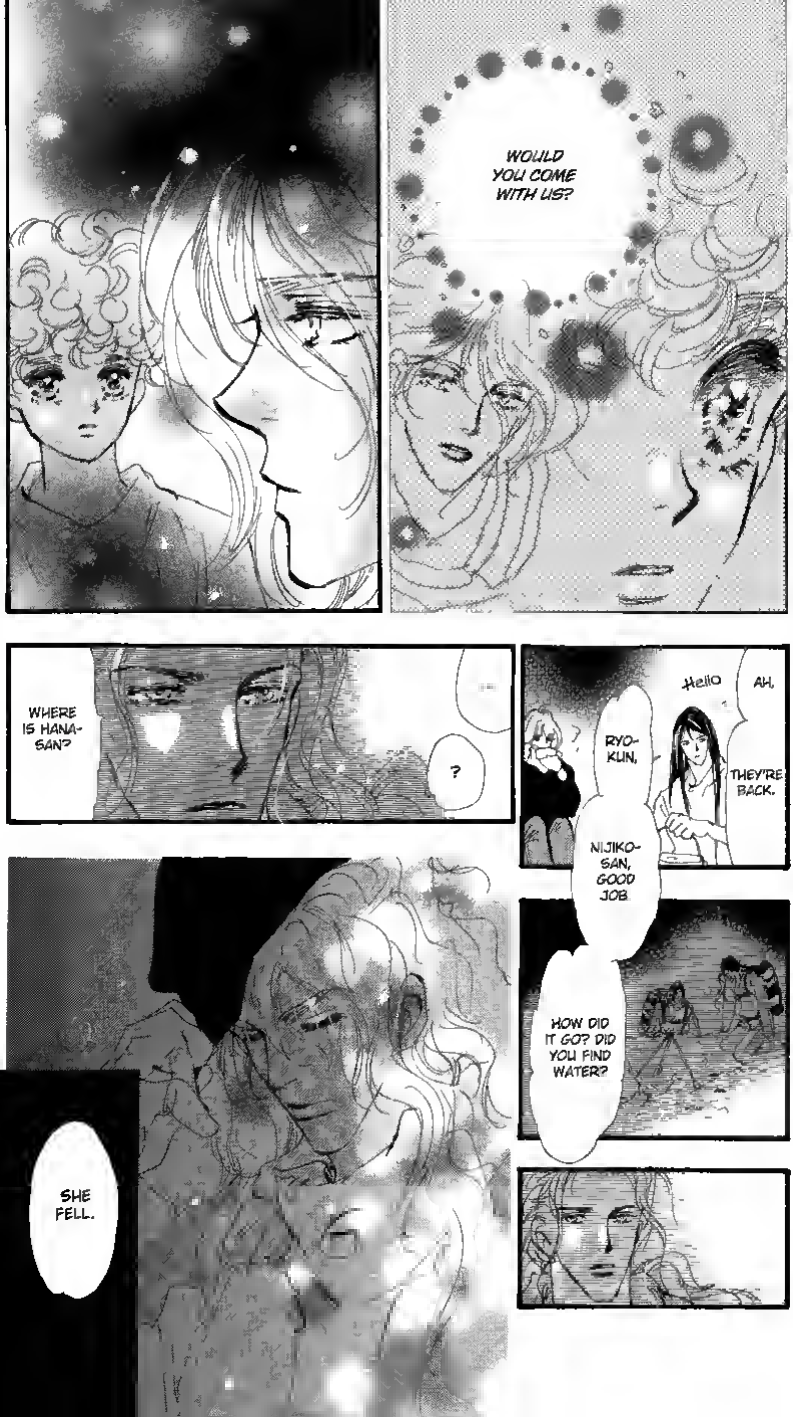

Hello
HARU
WHERE ARE HANA AND THE OTHERS?
crunch
crunch

WE'VE GOT HOTPOT WITH B LIZARD. WANT SOME?
THEY'RE NOT BACK YET.
I'm famish-ed
YES, PLEASE
woof
They said that they might stay down there all night, though.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT THEM

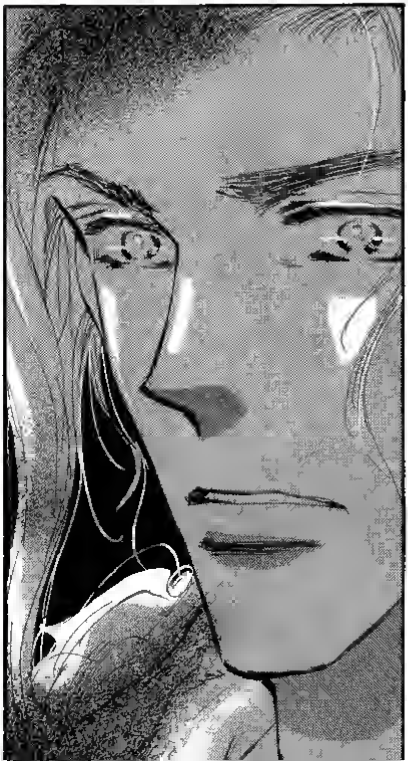

HUH ...?
NOTH-ING

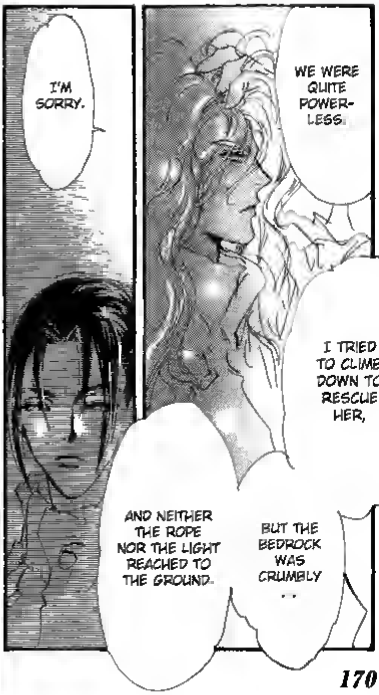
KORURI-SAN?
WHAT'S WRONG ?




WOULD YOU COME WITH US?
WHERE IS HANA-SAN?
?
AH, HELLO
RYO-KUN, THEY'RE BACK.
NIJIKO-SAN, GOOD JOB.
HOW DID IT GO? DID YOU FIND WATER?
SHE FELL.

THE ROPE SNAPPED.
AND SHE FELL DOWN INTO A DEEP CRACK.

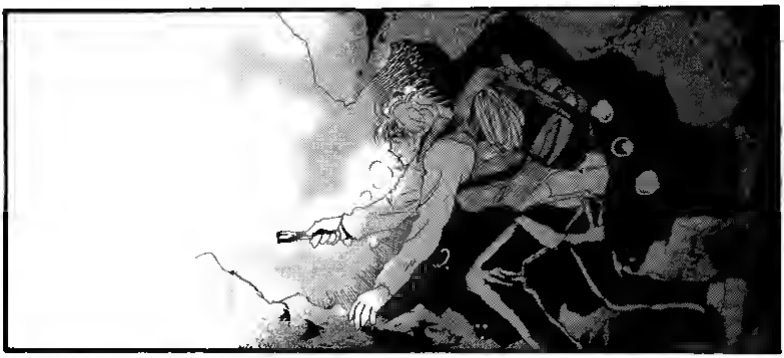


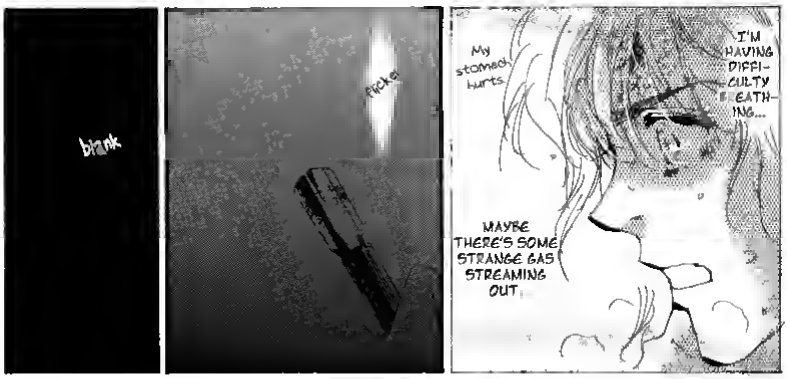

I'M SORRY.
WE WERE QUITE POWER-LESS.
I TRIED TO CLIMB DOWN TO RESCUE HER,
BUT THE BEDROCK WAS CRUMBLY . .
AND NEITHER THE ROPE NOR THE LIGHT REACHED TO THE GROUND.

WHAT'S ...
WITH THIS. .
REPETI-TION...
THAT SOUNDS LIKE THE SPEECH OF A POLITICIAN,
...RYO?
I'LL GO THERE..
PLEASE, SHOW ME THE WAY
YOU GUYS CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
I'LL GO TO RESCUE HER.
THERE'S NO WAY SOMEONE COULD SURVIVE FALLING DOWN THERE
GRAB
SHE'S ALREADY DEAD ..
WHAT DID YOU SAY?

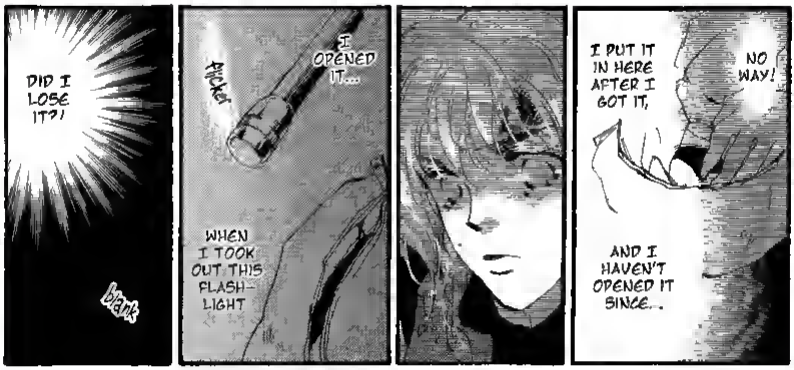
HOH
I'LL LET YOU DOWN SLOWLY, SO KEEP STILL.
ME TOO
I'M GOING TO PREPARE SOME EQUIPMENT AND LIGHT.
GEN-GORO-KUN...
I'LL GO GET BAN-CHAN.
LET'S GO, ARAMAKI-SAN.
I'LL SUPPORT YOU.
HANA WOULDN'T KICK THE BUCKET SO EASILY.
SHE'S A TOUGH ONE.
ARA-MAKI-SAN,
WATCH YOUR STEP
DIDN'T FIND ANY WATER DOWN HERE, EITHER.
WE...

HANA!
HANA-SAN!
ANSWER ME!
HANA-SAN,
HERE IT IS
SHE FELL FROM THERE
I'LL CLIMB DOWN.




blank
necktie
My stomach hurts.
I'M HAVING DIFFICULTY BREATHING...
MAYBE THERE'S SOME STRANGE GAS STREAMING OUT.

I'LL USE THE HAND WHEEL LED LAMP...
THAT RAN-SAN GAVE ME
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.
THIS FLASH-LIGHT IS GIVING UP THE GHOST TOO.
flash
I DON'T HAVE ANY SPARE BATTER-IES.
Put some in, will you?
P2t
P2t
IT'S GONE?
IT'S NOT HERE?


DID I LOSE IT?!
blank
I OPENED IT...
flicker
WHEN I TOOK OUT THIS FLASH-LIGHT
I PUT IT IN HERE AFTER I GOT IT,
NO WAY!
AND I HAVEN'T OPENED IT SINCE...

SHINE...
COME ON...
Pat
Pat
JUST A LITTLE LONGER...
IT'S DARK...

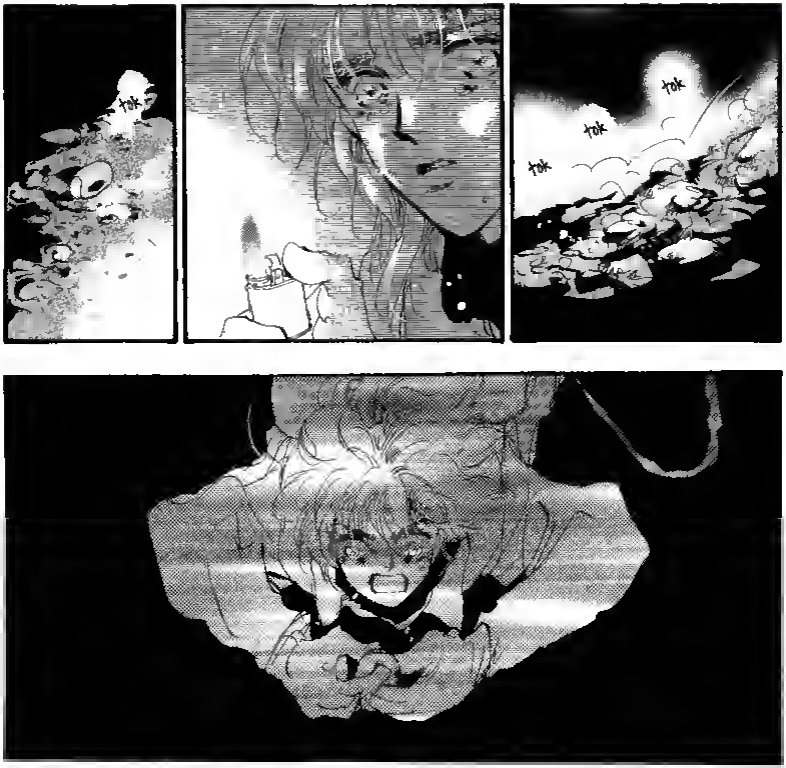
CALM DOWN, HANA!
UH.
UH.
CALM YOURSELF YOU'VE GOT A LIGHTER.
I DON'T KNOW IF THE GAS HERE HAS ALREADY ESCAPED THOUGH...
UH.
HIC
SOB
DAD...
UUH!
zip
Huff
Huff
It's my bad, because I didn't check my equipment properly.
I'LL GO BACK TO SEARCH FOR THE LAMP.
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING THAT I COULD USE AS A TORCH.
Hah
Hah
Hah

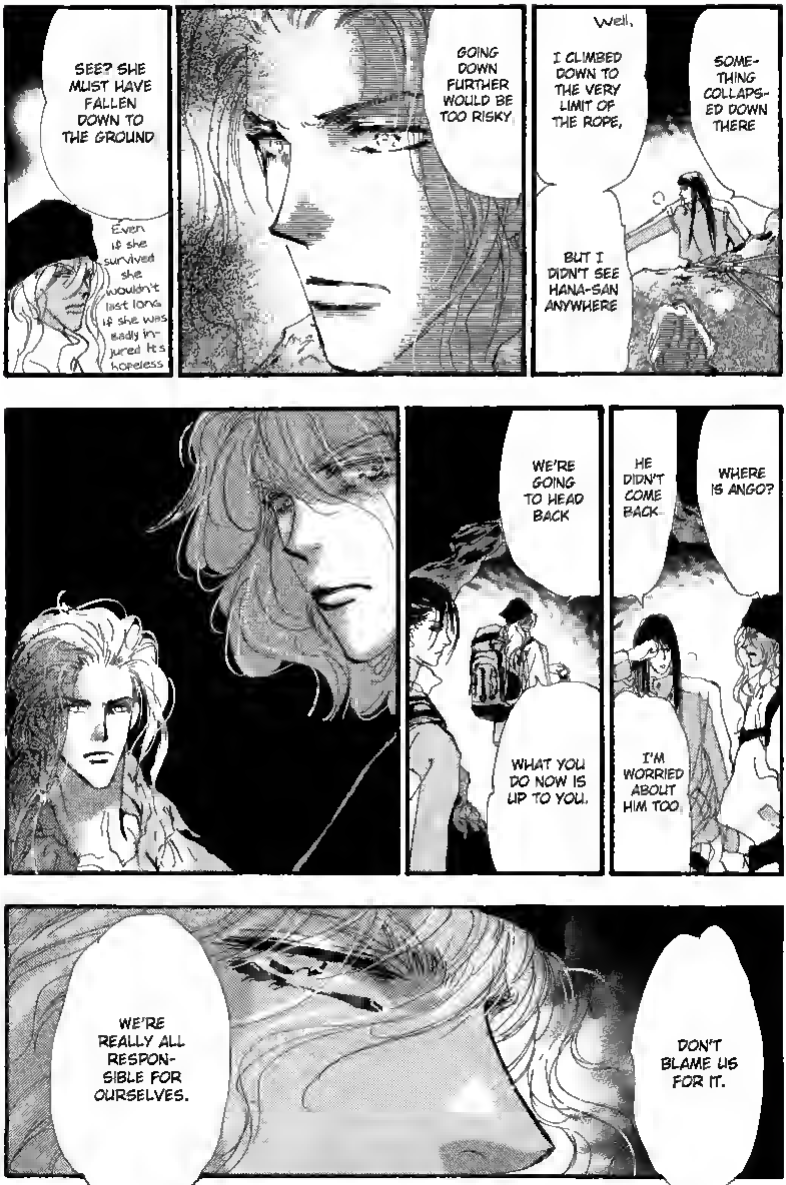
wheeze
wheeze
wheeze
I JUST HOPE THAT IT DIDN'T FALL INTO THAT PRECIPICE.
IT'S A YELLOW LAMP
IT SHOULD STAND OUT
IT'S A STRAIGHT PATH ANYWAY.
SO as not to bump my head.
I'LL USE THE LIGHTER EVERY NOW AND THEN.
I...
EXPLORING CAVES WAS MY DREAM WHEN I WAS LITTLE.
DON'T WANT TO DO THIS EVER AGAIN.
THAT'S NEVER GOING TO HAPPEN.
uh
hic
sob
EVER!
HANAA ...
HANA-SAAN...

DASH
I HAVE TO WARN THEM!
ARA-MAKI-SAN.
THEY MUST-N'T.
RYO IS DANGER-OUS!
TO MY RESCUE?!
ARE THEY COM-ING...
HANA-SAAN...
HARU?!
flare
HANAA ...
ARAMAKI-SAN!!

DIMLY LIT...
hah
hah
hah
IT S...
AAH!
WHOA?!
RUMBLE
slide
crumble

WHOA!
BOEN
SLIDE
HARU!
ARA-MAKI-SAN!
UWAAH!
ARA-MAKI-SAN!
tok
tok
わあああ
THE WAY BACK COLLAPS-ED
IT'S BLOCK-ED
ARA-MAKI-SAN!
I'M HERE!
HERE.


trik
trik
trik
trik
crank
crank
crank
crack
push


SEE? SHE MUST HAVE FALLEN DOWN TO THE GROUND
Even if she survived she wouldn't last long if she was badly injured it's hopeless
GOING DOWN FURTHER WOULD BE TOO RISKY
Well,
I CLIMBED DOWN TO THE VERY LIMIT OF THE ROPE,
SOMETHING COLLAPSED DOWN THERE
BUT I DIDN'T SEE HANA-SAN ANYWHERE
WE'RE GOING TO HEAD BACK
WHAT YOU DO NOW IS UP TO YOU.
HE DIDN'T COME BACK.
WHERE IS ANGO?
I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIM TOO.
WE'RE REALLY ALL RESPONSIBLE FOR OURSELVES.
DON'T BLAME US FOR IT.

WE MIGHT GET A SIGNAL.
HANA-SAN COULD EVEN CLIMB BACK UP HERE.
I...
WILL WAIT HERE.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

LET'S...
HANG UP SOME LAMPS DOWN THERE,
BE-CAUSE
SHE MUST BE SCARED ...

THERE ARE MANY CAVES AND CREVICES.
MAYBE ONE OF THEM LEADS OUTSIDE.
WHAT DO I DO?
WHICH WAY SHOULD I HEAD?
IT'S ALREADY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, I GUESS.
I SHOULD WAIT UNTIL MORNING.
I SHOULD STAY CALM, AND KEEP MY HEAD
I MUSTN'T PANIC
THERE MIGHT BE LIGHT SHINING IN.
I FOUND THE LAMP.
AND I HAVE SOME WATER AND FOOD.
SO, I SHOULD GET A GRIP.

I ONLY WANTED TO PRESENT MYSELF IN THE BEST LIGHT.
I WASN'T AFRAID
I WASN'T SCARED
BUT NOW...
ARAMAKI-SAN, IZAYOI-SAN AND THE DOGS WERE WITH ME.
WE WERE ABLE TO JOIN RAN-SAN AND THE OTHERS TOO
WHEN I WAS IN THAT SHELTER ...

I'M ON MY OWN.

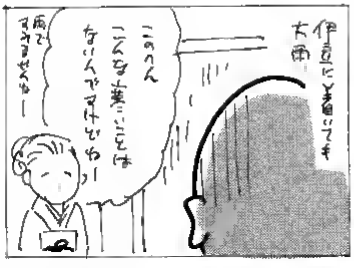
HANA,
LET'S HAVE A RACE.
HOW RUDE.
JUST YOU WAIT. I'M GOING TO BEAT YOU!
I'LL SWIM ON MY CHEST.
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD WIN AGAINST YOU, ARASHI.
Go!
YOU SHOULD DO THE CRAWL, HANA.
SSH
DID I DOZE OFF FOR A WHILE?
The lamp is still shining, so it can't have been for very long.
ACHOO!
YOU'RE QUITE BOLD, HANA.
ACHOO!

〈7SEEDS〉⑮＊ End ＊

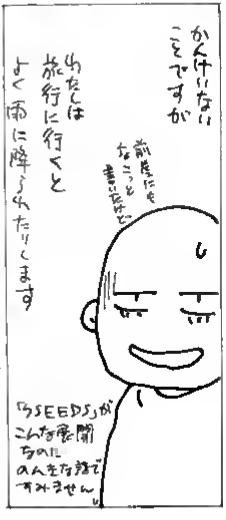
Rain Over Paradise * http://rp-fans.livejournal.com

たむたむだむ

こないだ　えしぶりに
おそるおそる
体重をはかってみたら
前人未到の域に
達してました（わしにとって）
おそろしくて
どうしていいのか
わかりません
やばい！
やばすぎる！
スチャッ
こんな体重計
こんにちは！
お元気ですか？
いつも見てくださって
ありがとうございます!!
みなさんに　いいことが
たくさん
ありますように！


伊豆に雪はでても
大雨
このへん
こんな寒いことは
ないんですよねー
雨で
すみませんねー

こないだも
出かけに
吹雪
みぞれ!
まのうまで
みったかかったのに
歩道橋で
つけた


かんけいないことですが
わたしは
旅行に行くと
よく雨に降られたりします
前原にも
なにっと
書かれた
「SEEDS」が
こんな雰囲気の
ときに
のんきな顔で
すみません

そういえば
日光でも
このへん
雨は
珍しいんです
けどねー
ざくざくぶり

熱海では
台風に
ザッパーン
そういえば 昔
自分のマンガを
アニメ化
してもらえた時の
記念イベントでも
ものすごい台風直撃で
ゆかたも
ぬれた
来てくれた
お客さんが
いっぱい
沖縄でも
雨
思い出す
旅の思い出は
海かと雨が
多い
なので
旅の前には
友人に
お願い
しますよー
と言われる
ネームは漫画に
アイデアに集中すると 表面とかみ別が
わしのせいじゃ
ない!
と思うが
あんまり
言われてると
わしのせいじゃ
なかったっけ
と思ったりするから
フシギだ
きっとの本当に こうまわれてる人が たくさんいるにすがいない
理不尽なり
しかも
かえて
旅先では
休み
あら
仕入れのための
臨時休業とか
何ヶ月に一度
一日だけの
メニューのための休みとか
休み
がーん
ここそか
サイトで
調べても
書いてない。
なぜ
行こうとしても
お店がなんかが
たまたま
休みであることが
多い
定休日じゃ
ないのに!
わしのせいじゃ
ない!
じっ
そんな
わたしですが
みちえさん
お元気ー
これからも
つらEDとも
どうぞよろしく
お願いいたします
「とりもよろしくー」

FCα FLOWER COMICS α
flowers フラワーコミックスアルファ

7SEEDS セブンシーズ

15

Yumi Tamura
田村由美

7SEEDS 15
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●作品紹介

★隕石の衝突による、人類滅亡を回避するために、政府が実施した救済計画「7SEEDS」。変貌を遂げた世界で、計画に組み込まれた若者たちは、絶望を感じながらも厳しい環境と闘い、生き抜いている。各地から人々が集まり、小さなコミュニティができつつあったが、そこに深刻な亀裂が発生して―!?